

ALL ABOUT HISTORY

Killing the Kennedys

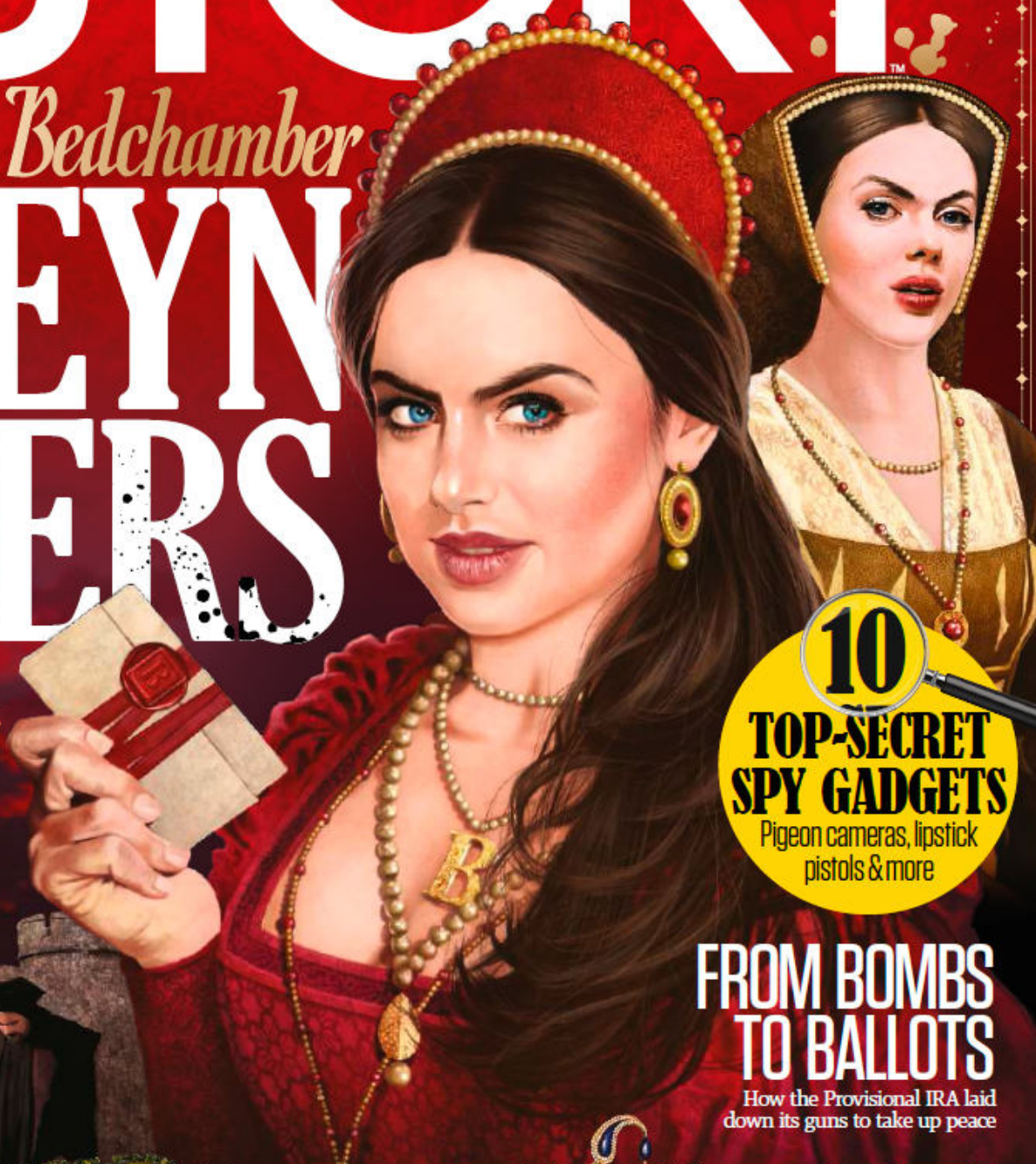
Revealed: the tragic story of America's First Family



Battle for the Bedchamber

BOLEYN SISTERS

Groomed for greatness:
how two siblings became
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Pigeon cameras, lipstick
pistols & more

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How the Provisional IRA laid
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How magic lantern shows
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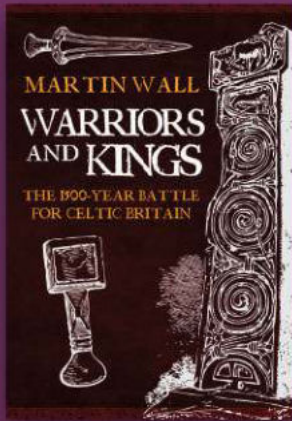
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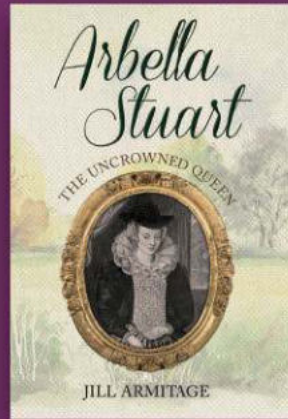
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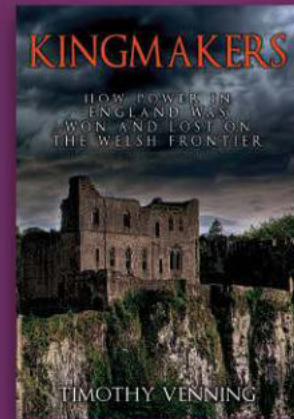
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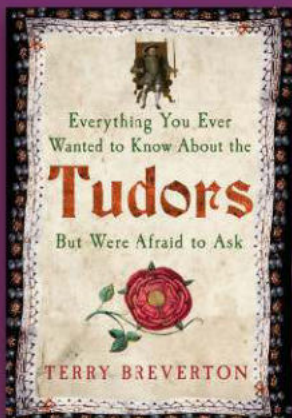
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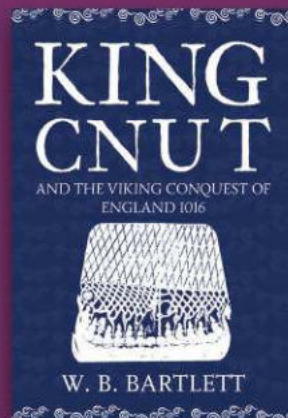
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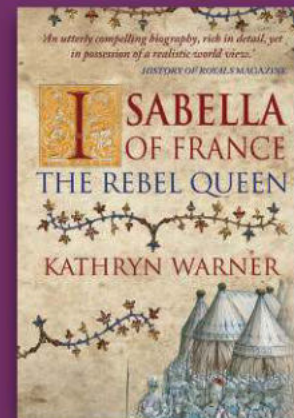
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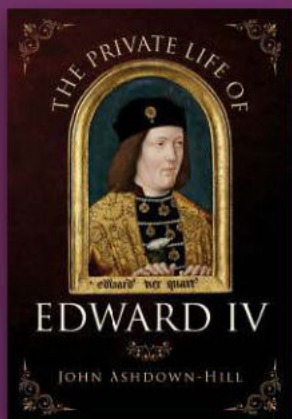
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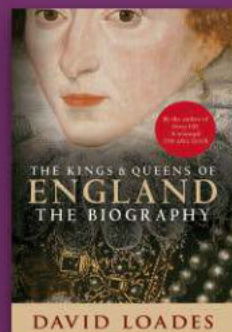
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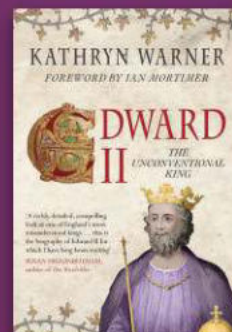
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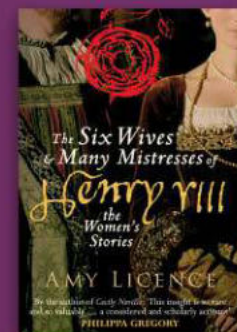
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Discover who has been struck down by the Curse of the Kennedys

Welcome

In an era defined by the loutish appetites - sexual and secular - of Henry VIII, the ambition of Tudor women like Anne and Mary Boleyn can't help but elicit sympathy, respect and even admiration. They carried the spark of the modern woman into the gloom of the Early Modern world. Even Anne's motto is effectively a 16th century "Haters gonna hate": "Ainsi sera, groigne qui groigne", or, "Let them complain, that's how it's going to be."

Regardless of the debate around their methods and motives, they tried to beat a system that was rigged against them. They crossed the uncrossable line around the royal bit on the side, defied the scorn of a queen

and went head-to-head with the ruthless powerbrokers of the Tudor court. Eventually they found themselves competing, after a fashion, for the monarch's affections, with Anne emerging triumphant.

Alas, to win in a game with stakes this high is also to lose and Anne found in her triumph



that every Tudor rose has its thorn. You know how that story ends, of course, but how the Boleyn sisters got there together might surprise you.

James Hoare
Editor in Chief

Editor's picks

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Prisons

A potent reminder that there are few areas in which the human race is as eager to innovate as in cruelty, but from the darkness come glimmers of hope.

52



Medieval Trends

You might think that viral trends are a product of mass media, but people have always been keen to whip themselves into a frenzy over something or other.

78



The Tiger of Mysore

The British Empire is often a debate between exploitation and progress, but it was also a struggle. Meet the Indian tiger who gave the British lion a bloody snout.

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From party trick to propaganda tool, discover the strange but true social history of the laterna magica

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Viral sensations are nothing new, the Europe of the Middle Ages would go wild at the drop of a wimple

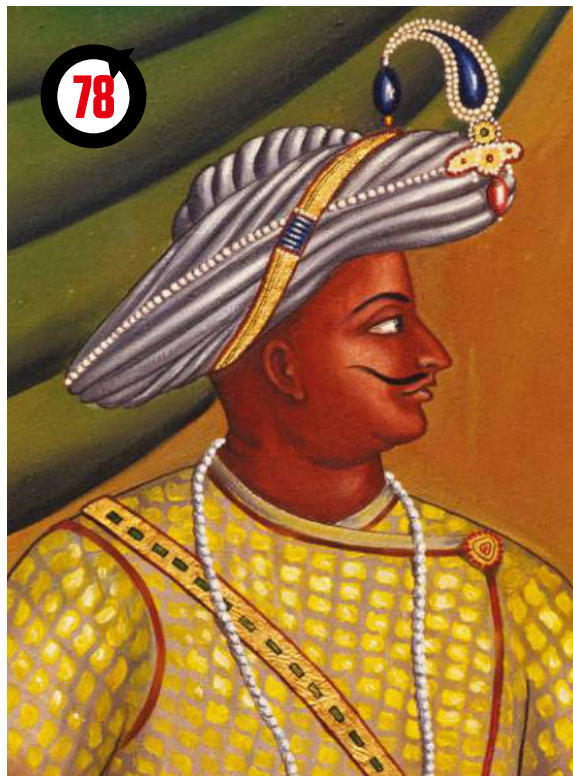
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When one Indian prince refused to back down, Britain met its match



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Britain and Russia's colonial cold war turned hot in the hills of Afghanistan?



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What else could it be but the bodice-ripping *Other Boleyn Girl*?

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HISTORY IN COLOUR

'FATHER' AND SON

Earl Mountbatten of Burma and the Duke of Edinburgh review the Royal Marines. After turmoil in Greece separated the infant Prince Phillip from his family, Mountbatten's guidance saw his rootless nephew knuckle down to a lifetime of service to the Crown, as naval hero of World War II, patron of 800 charities, and Britain's longest serving royal consort. Enjoy retirement, your highness.

1965



HISTORY IN PICTURES

SETTING THE STAGE

Joseph Stalin, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and the rolling cameras that made this an iconic image of the 'Big Three'. At the Tehran Conference the western Allies agree to open a second front against Nazi Germany and in support, Stalin pledges a major offensive in the east – Operation Overlord in France and Operation Bagration in the occupied Soviet Union.

1943







HISTORY IN COLOUR

SISTER WHACKED

Seventeen-year-old Venus stretches to reach the ball played by 16-year-old Serena at the Australian Open - the first professional clash between the Williams sisters. Over their incredible career, they've notched 30 Grand Slam wins and eight Olympic gold medals between them. The pair faced off again at the 2017 Australian Open, which Serena won while eight weeks pregnant.

1998



HISTORY IN PICTURES

ONE FIGHT IN PARIS

A policeman hurls a tear gas canister at the oncoming crowd as student discontent became student riot. Though dressed in left-wing rhetoric, 'May 1968' (which actually lasted from 2 May to 23 June) was an explosion of frustration against conservative French society. "I'm a Marxist - of the Groucho tendency," is the slogan that sums it up the best.

1968



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PRISONS

From icy Siberian exile to the darkest dungeons of the Tower of London, discover how society's bad apples were kept under lock and key



Prisons Across History

Whether dungeons, towers or islands, see how prisons have evolved over the centuries

THROWN IN A CAVE

Ancient cultures like Mesopotamia and Egypt used underground caves and caverns as dungeons to hold prisoners while they await execution, or before being sold on into slavery.



WHEN IN ROME



The Cancere Marmertinum houses many famous prisoners, including the Chieftain of Gaul, St Peter and St Paul.

Roman ingenuity turns a large indoor water reservoir into a prison.

BY ROYAL DECREE

King Henry II of England commissions the first prisons to be used for punishment rather than just as a holding place for trial or execution. This includes Newgate in London.



2ND CENTURY BCE

60 BCE

1166

THE AGE OF REFORM

Britain leads the world by paying prison guards, stopping prisoners paying for food and clothes, placing prisons under government control, and creating the first prison inspections for prisoner welfare.



DEPORTATION TO AUSTRALIA

Private companies are paid £3 per prisoner for transportation

By 1868

168,000 have been sent to Australia



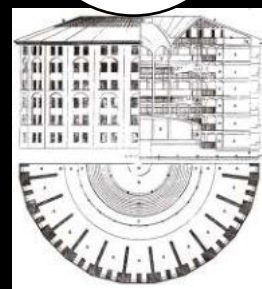
20% of those sent are women



NOWHERE TO HIDE

Jeremy Bentham creates his Panopticon design for prisons. Just like the hub and spokes of a wheel, prisoners believe the guards can view them from a central point at all times.

Guards could not see prisoners all the time but, believing they were being watched, they changed their behaviour!



19TH CENTURY

19TH CENTURY

1791

A DIFFERENT APPROACH

Canada creates its first women-only prison, Mercer Reformatory, in Toronto. It recognises the different needs of female prisoners, and creates an atmosphere of homeliness for rehabilitation back into society.



PRISON ON AN INDUSTRIAL SCALE



The Soviet Gulag or labour camp system has

30,000 CAMPS



The largest holds 25,000 PRISONERS

18 MILLION

people are sent to the camps between 1929 and 1953

A FIRST FOR CHINA

The No1 Prison in Beijing is open as the first purpose-built prison of its kind in the country. The design is modelled on that of Pentonville Prison in London.



1874

MID 20TH CENTURY

1912

SENT TO THE TOWER

Primarily a fortress and royal palace but used as a prison for **OVER 800 YEARS**

During the two World Wars

12 men were executed here for espionage



The last prisoners were the Kray twins in

1952

In 1660 an Act of Parliament pardoned any criminal acts during the English Civil War with some exceptions



A HOME FOR THE HOMELESS

Houses of Correction are created in Britain to rid the country of overwhelming numbers of vagrants and homeless. In order to be released they must rid themselves of 'laziness'.



1100-1952

1400

OFF TO THE NEW WORLD

Britain deports prisoners to both America and Australia, sometimes for what seem like very minor offences, such as stealing a chicken. A total of 50,000 prisoners are deported in this period alone.



America could no longer be used as a destination after Britain lost the War of Independence

SHIP SHAPE

Old disused ships are used by the English and French as 'hulks' or floating prisons. Anchored in rivers and on coastlines they are cramped and disease-ridden but easy to guard.



THE PRISONER ARMY

Desperate to reduce the large numbers in Britain's prisons, lawbreakers are offered the choice of a military pardon - join the army rather than go to jail - and many do.



1786-1791

18TH CENTURY

17TH CENTURY

THE RISE OF THE ROCK

Alcatraz prison is opened in San Francisco Bay to hold the most dangerous prisoners in the USA. Its reputation is to become part of American and prison folklore.



Prisoners are allowed hot showers. It's believed this will stop them from braving the cold waters of the Bay to escape!

PRISON POLITICS

The rise of prison camps is started by the British in the Boer War, and develops through the century to the Russian Gulags, Nazi Concentration Camps and America's Guantanamo Bay.



SEPARATION AND ISOLATION

Pelican Bay Prison in California becomes the first to keep all prisoners confined in isolation from each other for maximum security, and so becomes the first 'supermax' prison.



THE BIG PICTURE

In 2012 there are **10.1 MILLION** people in prison all around the world
The USA prison population in this year is **2.3 MILLION**

This equates to **1 IN 100** Americans in prison

The isolation without exercise in a supermax prison can be for as long as 23 hours per day



1934

20TH CENTURY

1989

2012



THE PANOPTICON

DESIGN CONCEPT, 18TH CENTURY

The Panopticon was an ambitious, albeit unsettling, architectural design. It was intended to bring about reform of those held within its walls, whether they were prisoners, the poor, workers or the sick. The mechanism of reform was surveillance, and the very name of the structure referred to this: pan (all) and optic (seeing).

The original plans were outlined by the philosopher Jeremy Bentham, who published a series of his letters in *Panopticon: Or The Inspection House* in 1787. Bentham claimed the structure composed a 'new principle', which could be applied to any institution. The idea derived from his younger brother, Samuel, who was searching for ways to train inexperienced workmen, building ships for the Russian navy. In these letters, however, we can see Bentham adapting the concept for a proposed penitentiary. His publication showed his belief in the power of architecture to modify people's behaviour.

The purpose of the building was to keep inmates under surveillance for the duration of their stay, or at least make them believe they were being constantly watched. Bentham promoted the Panopticon as a new way of obtaining power - not just over physical labour and movement of people, but also of 'mind over mind'. It is that idea which has captured the imaginations of historians and the public ever since.

The Panopticon has been used to represent extensive social changes, not just with regard to institutions, but also CCTV and other modern surveillance technology. This is important because the historical power of the Panopticon cannot be explained by its operation, as it was never actually built. The government turned away from private prisons run for profit, and Bentham was extremely disappointed, saying: "They have murdered my best days."

Despite no true Panopticons being built, its unusual design has influenced the likes of Strangeways Prison in Manchester, England, and Presidio Modelo in Cuba. Bentham's vision of control has reverberated down the centuries.

Sanitation

Each cell has a kind of toilet composed of a small shaft in the wall between every two cells covered by a cast-iron seat. A 'slight screen' would enable inmates to have some privacy. Cells would also have a water supply for drinking. These facilities removed one primary means of contamination and spread of infection, and were also one reason why men of social standing might be reluctant to take up the post of inspector.

The cell

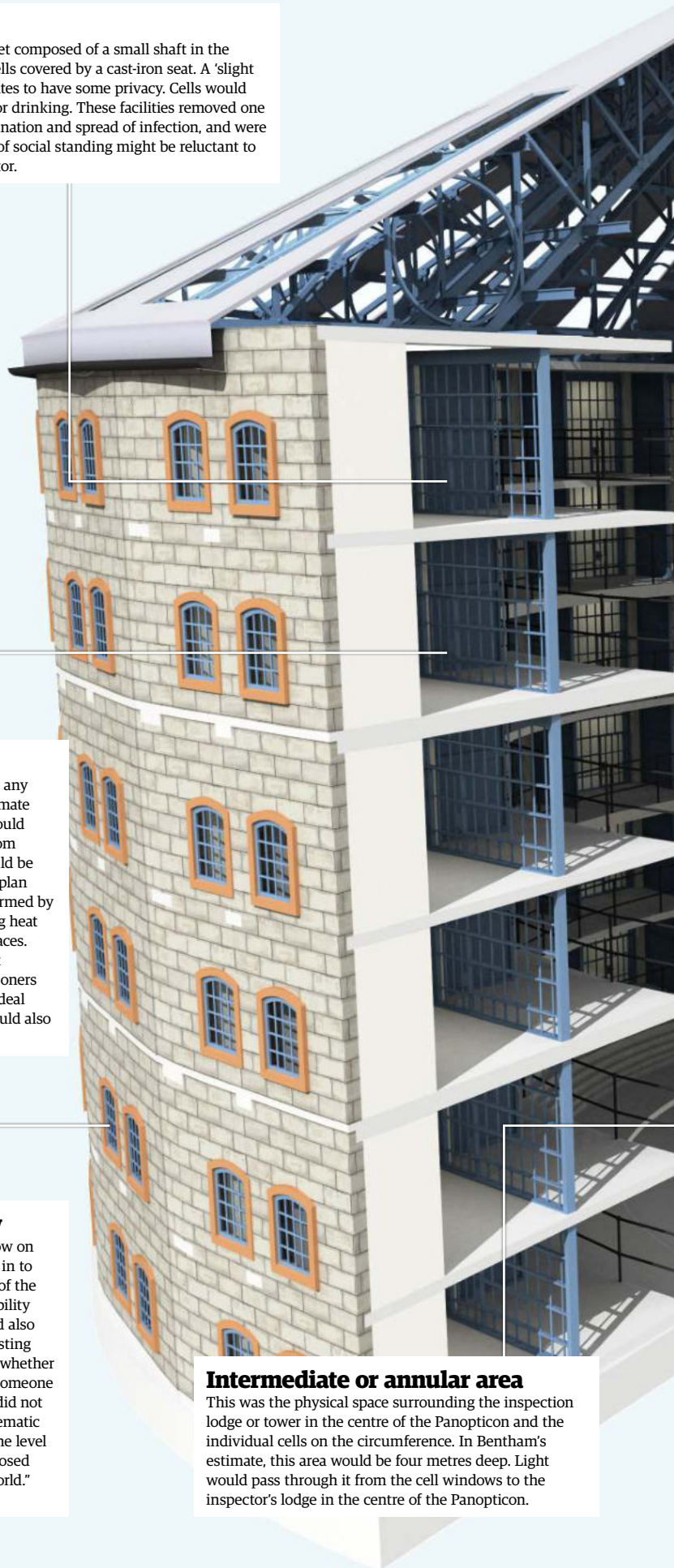
Cells were large enough for any work undertaken by the inmate and designed so inmates could be separated completely from one another. Prisoners would be unable to communicate or plan escapes. Cells would be warmed by a system of flues circulating heat from central internal fireplaces. This was an innovation not available at the time to prisoners who often suffered a great deal from the cold. The cells would also be ventilated.

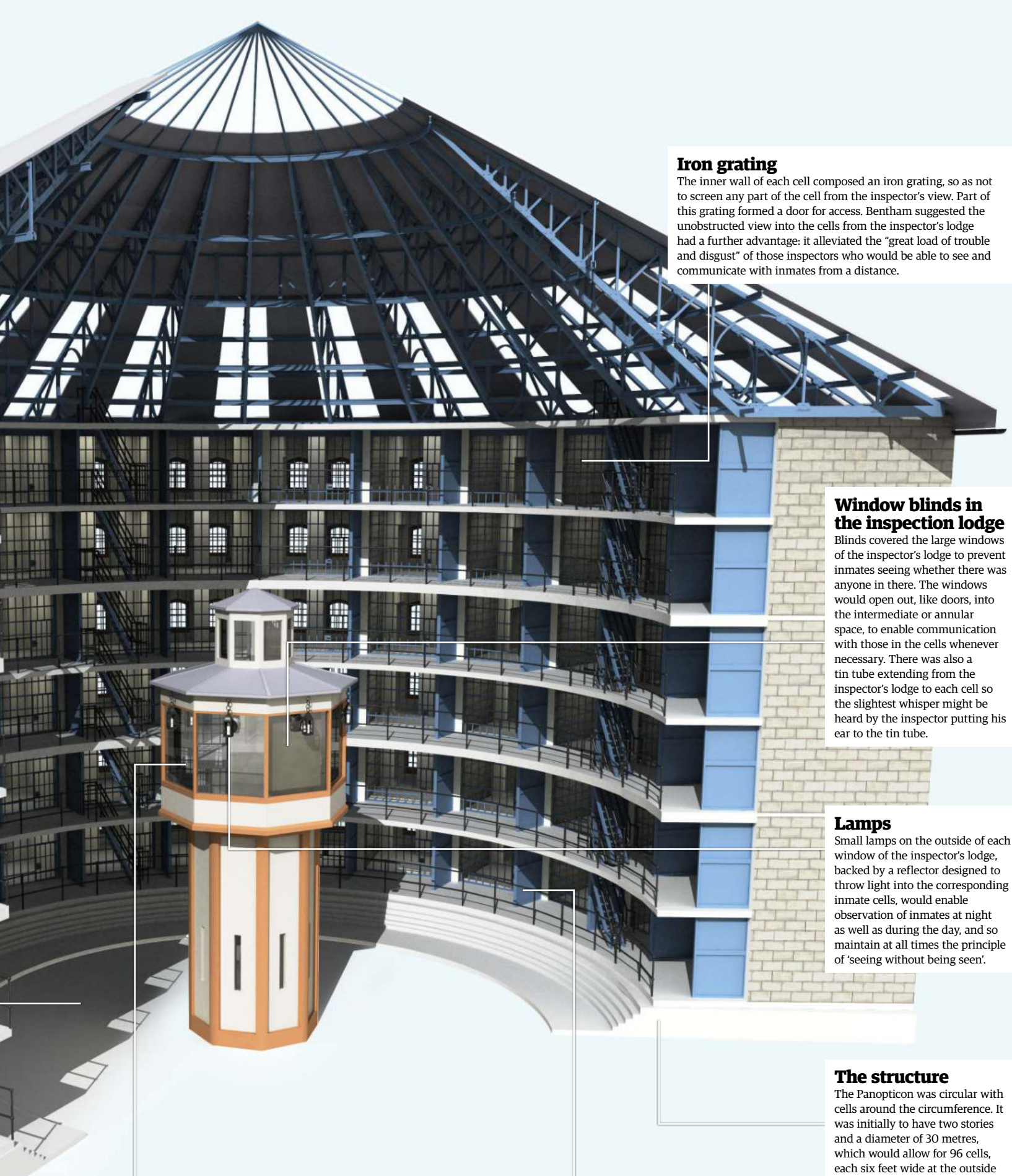
The cell window

Each cell had a large window on the outside wall to let light in to the cell and internal space of the Panopticon facilitating visibility from the centre. This would also make the view more interesting from the inspector's lodge, whether you were the inspector or someone visiting out of curiosity. Σ did not suggest visitors were problematic but rather they improved the level of inspection as they composed part of a "tribunal of the world."

Intermediate or annular area

This was the physical space surrounding the inspection lodge or tower in the centre of the Panopticon and the individual cells on the circumference. In Bentham's estimate, this area would be four metres deep. Light would pass through it from the cell windows to the inspector's lodge in the centre of the Panopticon.





Iron grating

The inner wall of each cell composed an iron grating, so as not to screen any part of the cell from the inspector's view. Part of this grating formed a door for access. Bentham suggested the unobstructed view into the cells from the inspector's lodge had a further advantage: it alleviated the "great load of trouble and disgust" of those inspectors who would be able to see and communicate with inmates from a distance.

Window blinds in the inspection lodge

Blinds covered the large windows of the inspector's lodge to prevent inmates seeing whether there was anyone in there. The windows would open out, like doors, into the intermediate or annular space, to enable communication with those in the cells whenever necessary. There was also a tin tube extending from the inspector's lodge to each cell so the slightest whisper might be heard by the inspector putting his ear to the tin tube.

Lamps

Small lamps on the outside of each window of the inspector's lodge, backed by a reflector designed to throw light into the corresponding inmate cells, would enable observation of inmates at night as well as during the day, and so maintain at all times the principle of 'seeing without being seen'.

The structure

The Panopticon was circular with cells around the circumference. It was initially to have two stories and a diameter of 30 metres, which would allow for 96 cells, each six feet wide at the outside wall with a depth of four metres on the ground floor or more than two metres on the first floor (allowing for an access gallery). However, Bentham contended that the Panopticon could have up to six stories holding up to a staggering 288 inmates!

Inspector's lodge

In the centre was a circular inspection tower. The lodge had large windows to enable the best possible view into the cells. The lodge was to be raised from the ground to observe two floors of cells, with steps from the lodge to the ground. The lodge would also have a passage above the gallery for direct access to the outside so that the inspector could not become a prisoner among his prisoners.

Protracted partitions

Partitions between the cells were to extend three feet beyond the iron gratings on the inside wall of the cells to prevent inmates seeing or communicating with others in their cells. This would prevent moral contamination between inmates, but not extend so far that it would obstruct the view from the lodge.

THE Anatomy of

YEOMAN WARDER

TOWER OF LONDON, UK,
1509-PRESENT DAY

TUDOR STATE DRESS

FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

The official red and gold uniform was introduced in 1552 and consists of a knee-length tunic, breeches, stockings, white neck ruff and a brimmed hat called a Tudor bonnet. Since 1858, this Tudor State Dress is only worn when the sovereign visits the Tower or on state occasions.

UNDRESS UNIFORM

A STATE OF UNDRESS

For their day-to-day duties, the Warders wear a blue and red frock coat featuring the initials of the current monarch, and a matching cloth round hat with a cockade (rosette) on the front. This 'undress uniform' was granted to them by Queen Victoria in 1858.

KEYS

SECURE THE TOWER

At exactly 9.53pm each day, the Chief Yeoman Warder, dressed in a red Tudor Watchcoat, conducts the Ceremony of the Keys. This traditional locking of the Tower gates with the Queen's Keys has taken place every night without fail for the past 700 years.

BELT

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

The Yeoman Warders wear an almost identical state dress uniform to the Yeoman of the Guard, the bodyguards of the British Monarch. However it can be distinguished by the belt, which is worn around the waist of the Warders, and from the left shoulder of the Guards.



MEDALS

JOB REQUIREMENTS

The coat or tunic worn as part of each uniform has space for displaying the wearer's various medals, as to become a Yeoman Warder you must have served in the armed forces for at least 22 years, be a former Warrant Officer, in addition to holding the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

EMBLEMS

FABULOUS FLORALS

Alongside the monarch's initials, the Tudor State Dress features an embroidered thistle, rose and shamrock, which are the official floral emblems of Scotland, England and Ireland. This represents the three countries of Britain that the monarch serves.

SWORD

CHANGING USE

When the Tower was used as a royal residence and prison, the Warders were responsible for protecting the monarch and guarding the prisoners, and so may have needed their sword on occasion. Today it is more decorative, as their main duties involve giving guided tours and safeguarding the Crown Jewels.

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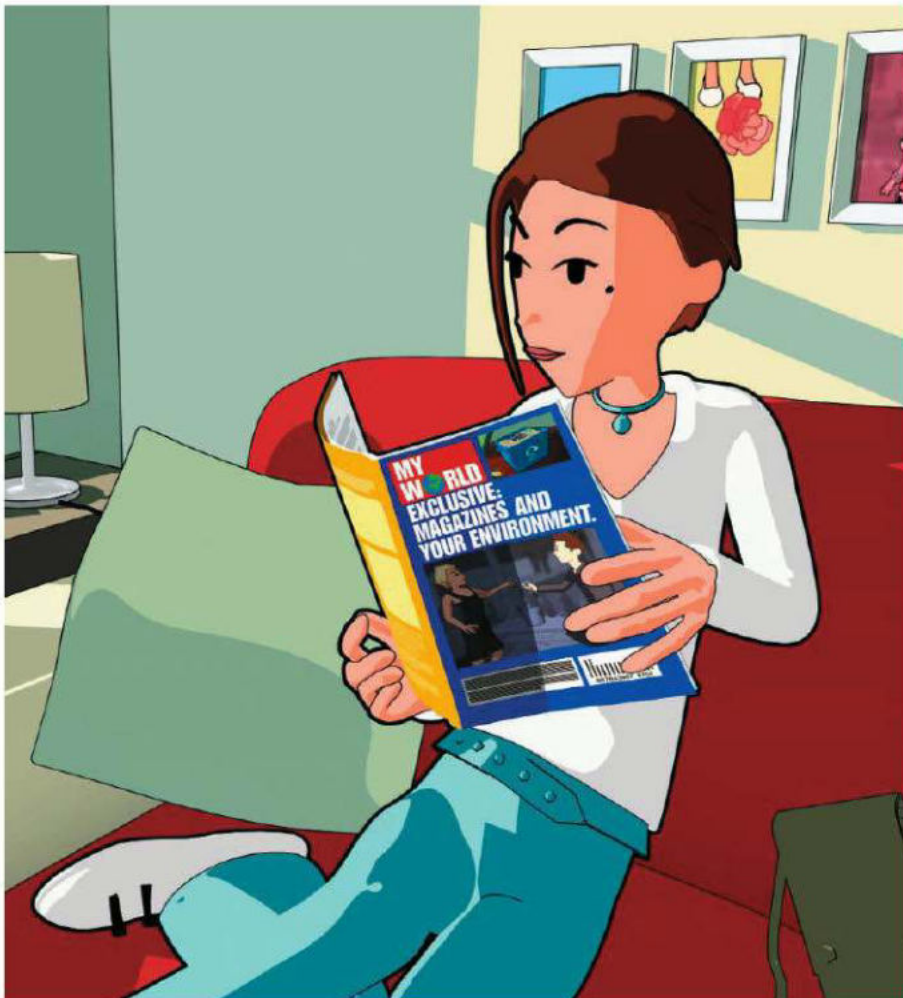
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Day in the life

A KATORGA CAMP

THE SHOCKING TREATMENT OF PRISONERS IN EXILE FROM RUSSIA SIBERIA, 1754-1917

Under Tsarist rule, the Russian government sentenced more than one million criminals and political opponents to exile in Siberia, forcing them to work in remote labour camps under incredibly harsh conditions. As well as putting these undesirable citizens out of sight and mind, this system of penal labour called katorga was also seen as a way of populating and developing new Russian territory. The prisoners provided free labour, building infrastructure and mining resources, with many losing their lives in the process. Following the Russian Revolution, the camps were transformed into Gulag labour camps, where conditions were even worse under Soviet rule.

TRAVEL TO CAMP

After being sentenced to exile in a katorga camp, convicts were required to walk there themselves, a journey that could take between one and three years. It is estimated that about half did not survive the gruelling journey. However, from 1876, convicts were transported by boat, increasing the percentage that reached their destination.

Even travelling to the camp was a torturous experience for the convicts



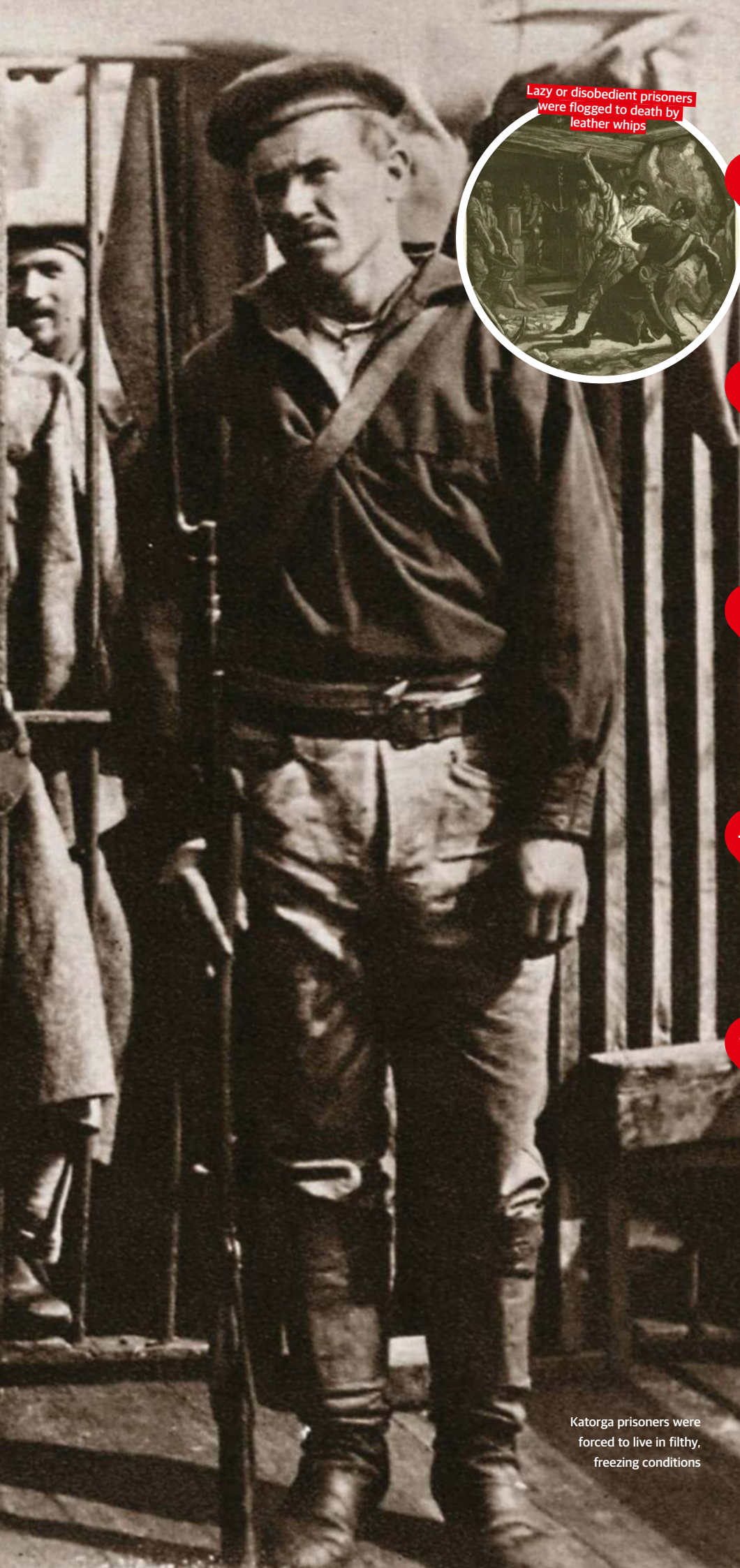
GET SHACKLED

Upon arrival at the camps, convicts had shackles secured to their ankles, chaining their legs together to stop them from running away. These chains were only removed once their sentence had been completed, but they were usually still forced to continue living and working in Siberia for the remainder of their lives.

START WORK

Prisoners worked for up to 11 hours a day constructing roads and railways, such as the Trans-Siberian Railway, or mining silver, lead and gold. The latter was the most dreaded task of all, as no safety equipment was provided and there was no medical care for those who contracted respiratory problems in the dark and dusty mines.





Lazy or disobedient prisoners were flogged to death by leather whips



BE PUNISHED

Prisoners who did not work hard enough or disobeyed the guards were often flogged to death with a type of long, leather whip called a knout. Other punishments included being chained up in an underground hole or being forced to drag around a 22-kilogram wooden beam for several years at a time.

PLAN AN ESCAPE

Many prisoners tried to escape the camps, usually with the help of peasants from nearby villages. They would carry them away in boats, carts and sledges, but many either drowned in the rivers or froze to death in the forests while travelling through the vast countryside. Some exiles were entrusted to small villages, and were told if they escaped, every resident would be executed.

EAT SUPPER

Food for the prisoners was supplied from neighbouring towns and government-contracted food allotments, and consisted mainly of bread, meat, lard and grain. For some of the poorer prisoners, the food was actually more plentiful and of better quality than they would have had at home, and they were even treated to extra portions of beef at Christmas.

TRADE WITH OTHERS

On special occasions, the prisoners sometimes received alms, charitable gifts, from the Russian lower classes who empathised with their meagre living conditions. Typical gifts were bread, vodka, fabric or money, which could be traded with other prisoners, helping some to gain relative importance and financial status within the camp economy.

GO TO BED

The cells in the prison camps were damp and freezing cold, particularly in winter when a thick layer of ice would form on the walls, and the straw mattresses would be covered in frost. The only heat came from two stoves in the corridor, and so the prisoners would move their beds closer to them to avoid freezing to death.

A prisoner's legs were chained together for the length of their sentence



Katorga prisoners were forced to live in filthy, freezing conditions

© Look and Learn, Getty Images

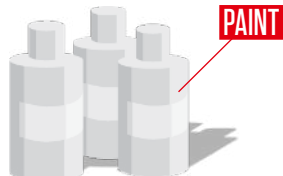
How to ESCAPE ALCATRAZ

THE ISLAND PRISON WAS RENOWNED FOR ITS ILL-FATED JAILBREAKS
SAN FRANCISCO BAY, CALIFORNIA, USA, 1934-1963

Originally set up as a naval defence post in the 1850s, Alcatraz became a fortified, high-security prison in 1934. Situated just over a mile offshore from San Francisco, California, the prison became known as 'the prison service's prison', and took on violent and dangerous criminals from other penitentiaries in the US.

Despite its fortress-like security, escape attempts still occurred. Of the 36 prisoners that tried to escape on 14 occasions (including two men who tried twice), 23 were caught, six were shot and two drowned. The remaining five men were never found, and are still listed as missing and presumed drowned. Alcatraz closed on 21 March 1963 due to running costs.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED...



Raft

The raft was glued together using a 'vulcanisation' method, by pressing the glued rubber against the prison's steam heating pipes.

Paddles

The raft and paddles were inspired by an article in *Popular Mechanics*. The magazine was later found in a cell.

Tides and currents

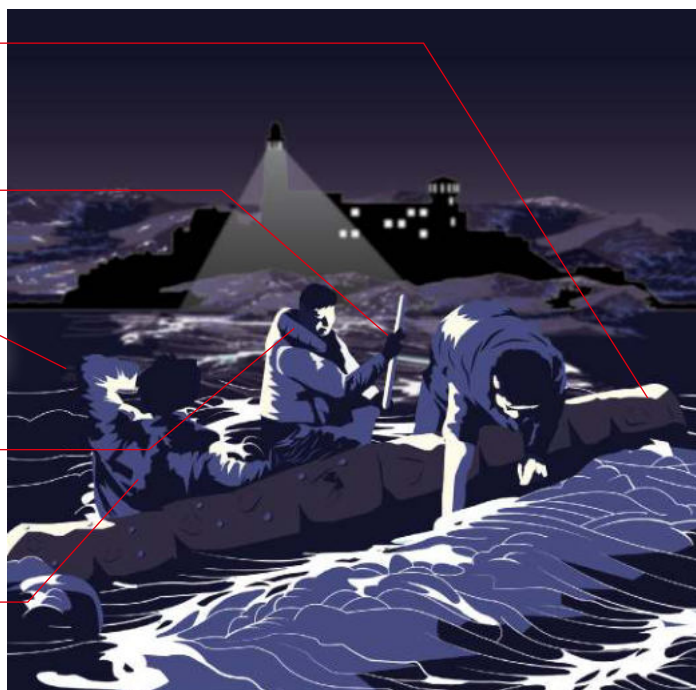
The water around Alcatraz is very cold, and the tidal currents strong. The escaped inmates in the raft were never found.

Life vest

Fabricated using the same technique as the raft, life vests were also inflated using a modified accordion-like instrument as a pump.

Escapees

Frank Lee Morris, John William Anglin and Clarence Anglin escaped on the night of 11 June 1962. Another inmate was in on the plan but failed to get out of his cell.



01 GATHER ASSOCIATES

For the best chance to make your escape you'll need some trusted friends, as this will take teamwork. When you're confident in your associates, spend time going through your plan and ironing out the weak spots. Spend the rest of your time watching the guards and learning their movements inside out so you're prepared when the time comes for action.

02 COLLECT TOOLS

You'll need as many tools as possible for cutting, drilling, sculpting and sewing. Take and conceal whatever you're able to get away with, and find a sensible hiding place that won't arouse suspicion. Be resourceful - when the vacuum cleaner breaks you can steal one of the motors when you repair it to make a motorised drill.

How not to... flee from The Rock

There are plenty of failed escape attempts from the prison on The Rock, with the most bloody being the Battle of Alcatraz. On 2 May 1946, bank robber Bernard Coy initiated a carefully planned escape attempt with four accomplices. After watching the guards closely, he scaled a wall and slipped through bars to enter the Gun Gallery, arming him and other inmates. The prisoners locked Alcatraz guards in cells, but failed to find the key to the recreation yard

that was the crux of their escape plan. As the alarm was raised, the warden sent in teams to recover control of the cellblock. What followed was 48 hours of bloody battle, with shots ringing out between guards and prisoners. The marines were called in to use explosives to regain control. There were five casualties, three conspirators and two prison guards. The remaining conspirators, Thompson and Shockley, received the death penalty in December 1948.



03 WIDEN VENT HOLES

Carefully and methodically chip away at the cement around the vent grills to widen the holes. Plan the times you work and make sure someone keeps watch. When you eventually chip through the walls, slip through and plan your route out of the cellblock. You'll need to do the same to the vent at the top of the cellblock in order to gain access to the roof.



04 MAKE A LIFELIKE DUMMY

Begin to make the decoys to ensure you're not missed when you make your escape. Use soap, toilet paper and whatever else you can find to sculpt some fake heads. Paint them pink using materials from the prison art kits, and steal human hair from the barber's for the head. If you like, name your dummies 'Oink' and 'Oscar'.



05 PREPARE A 'RAFT'

Carefully steal some glue from the glove shop, and procure as many prison-issued raincoats as possible. Some inmates will donate them but some you'll have to steal. Build an inflatable raft - about two metres by four - as well as some paddles. Use the same techniques to make life vests to boost your chance of survival in the cold San Francisco Bay.



06 ESCAPE AT NIGHT

Straight after lights out, slip through the hole in your cell. Meet your accomplices, but don't wait for anyone if they haven't escaped in time. Scale the plumbing to the top of the cellblock, head across the roof, and climb down to the ground near the entrance to the shower block. Launch the raft at the shore and you're off the island.

4 FAMOUS... ALCATRAZ PRISON INMATES

AL CAPONE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 1899-1947



The notorious mob boss and gangster, also known as 'Scarface', was imprisoned in Alcatraz in 1934 as #AZ85.

He served four years on The Rock, the last of which was spent in the prison hospital.

GEORGE 'MACHINE GUN KELLY' BARNES

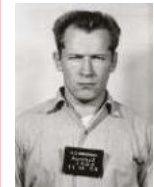
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, 1895-1954



Bootlegging, armed bank robberies and kidnapping with his favourite weapon, a Tommy gun, Kelly and his wife lived a life of crime. He was finally incarcerated in 1934.

JAMES 'WHITEY' BULGER JR.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 1929-PRESENT



The former boss of the Winter Hill Gang in Boston was imprisoned for 19 murders as Alcatraz inmate #AZ1428 in 1959, based on grand jury testimony from former associates.

ROBERT STROUD

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, 1890-1963



Locked up in solitary confinement, Stroud became known as the 'Birdman of Alcatraz' because he raised canaries in his cell. He even wrote two books about them.

5 shocking facts about...

WWII PRISONERS OF WAR

ALLIED AND AXIS POWERS, 1939-1945



AT A GLANCE

Millions of people were captured and imprisoned by both sides during World War II, but their treatment during this time varied. Countries including the US, UK and Germany mostly adhered to the Geneva Convention's provisions for POW treatment, while Japan and the Soviet Union had no such obligations.

01 Playing cards helped prisoners escape

During WWII, The United States Playing Cards Company designed a special deck of cards known as the 'Map Deck', which was sent to Allied prisoners. When soaked in water, the cards could be peeled apart to reveal a hidden map that could potentially help them to escape from German POW camps.

02 There was a canine POW

Judy the dog, a Royal Navy mascot, was officially registered as a POW after being captured with the crew of HMS Grasshopper in Japan. She intelligently protected them by distracting the camp guards when they were administering punishment to the prisoners, and was later awarded the Dickin Medal for her bravery.

03 Some enjoyed their stay

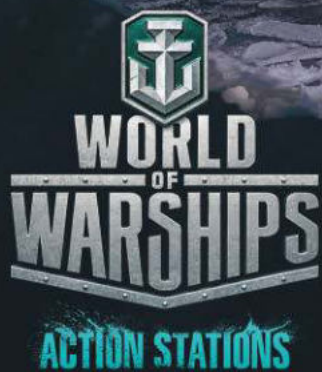
Some POWs, particularly German soldiers in the UK, US and Canadian camps, actually enjoyed a better life than they had back home, and chose to immigrate there once the fighting was over. Many received paid work and an education, while higher-ranking officers and admirals were even wined, dined and entertained there.

04 Thousands were experimented on

More than 10,000 Chinese, Korean and Russian POWs were subjected to experiments like live vivisections and organ removals, as part of Japan's biological warfare programme. After the war, the US offered Japanese officers immunity from prosecution for war crimes in return for their experimental data.

05 Homosexuals were never liberated

POWs sentenced in Germany as homosexuals were known as '175ers', in reference to the law that criminalised their sexuality, and were made to wear pink triangles on their clothing. After the war, they were not acknowledged as victims of Nazi persecution, and so were forced to serve out the rest of their sentences.



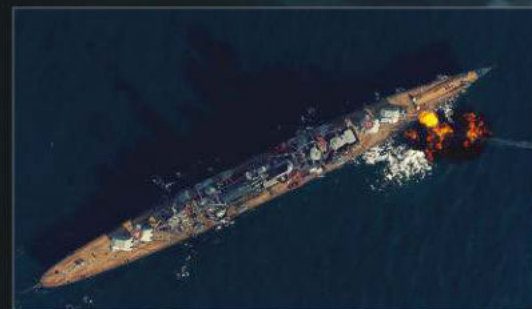
Battle of the Denmark Strait Bismarck's Pyrrhic Victory

In the early morning of May 24, 1941, several giants rocked the Atlantic in the Battle of the Denmark Strait. Kriegsmarine battleship Bismarck and heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen clashed with the pride of the Royal Navy, battle cruiser Hood and the battleship Prince of Wales, who were all that stood in the way of operation Rheinübung. Vice Admiral Lancelot Ernest Holland, the commander of Hood, issued the attack order.

Just 15 minutes after the start of convergence—at 05:52—Hood unleashed a salvo from around 13 miles (24km) away. But in doing so, Hood could not escape covering fire from Bismarck. At 06:00, an explosion engulfed the artillery cellars in Hood's hold. All the while, Prince of Wales fired blindly—her management positions divided—and scored a hit. A great wound tore Bismarck open; British ships hounded her oil trail, following her as she attempted to escape her fate.

A fate that you can avert in World of Warships, where over 200 vessels, including the famed Bismarck, are waiting for tactical commanders to rewrite their history.

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LET'S BATTLE

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Hall of Fame

PRISON REFORMERS

Meet the pioneers who helped transform prison systems around the world and changed the lives of inmates serving their time



Elizabeth Fry dedicated her life to helping people and made huge improvements to prison conditions

In 1840, Elizabeth Fry set up a school for nurses in London, and some of her students accompanied Florence Nightingale to the Crimean War

ELIZABETH FRY BRITISH, 1780-1845

Born into a Quaker family, Elizabeth Fry believed strongly in the importance of charity work and did all she could to help those less fortunate than herself. When visiting Newgate Gaol in 1813, she was shocked by the filthy and overcrowded conditions, particularly those suffered by female prisoners and their children, and so began campaigning for reform. When her brother-in-law, Thomas Fowell Buxton, was elected as an MP, he helped to promote her cause in the House of Commons and eventually the 1823 Gaols Act was introduced, resulting in improvements such as women warders being put in charge of women prisoners.

"Punishment is not for revenge, but to lessen crime and reform the criminal"

Elizabeth Fry

CESARE BECCARIA ITALIAN, 1738-94

Now considered one of the greatest minds of the 18th century Age of Enlightenment, Cesare Beccaria's writings on criminology were ahead of their time. He wrote his most famous and influential essay, *On Crimes And Punishments*, when he was just 26, but initially published it anonymously for fear of a government backlash over his criticisms of the penal system. He protested against the use of torture to obtain confessions, the inconsistency and inequality of sentencing, and advocated the abolition of capital punishment. His ideas went on to heavily influence reform in Western Europe and even helped shape the US Constitution and Bill of Rights.

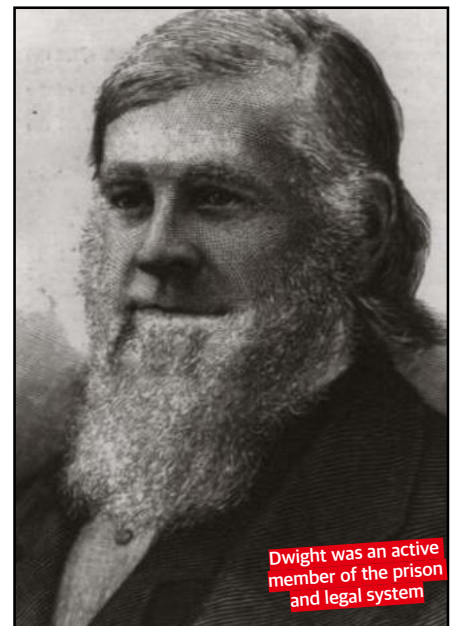
Beccaria's essay was the first treatise on overhauling the criminal law system



Cesare Beccaria's essay, *On Crimes And Punishments*, was translated into several languages and publicly endorsed by Catherine the Great

THEODORE WILLIAM DWIGHT AMERICAN, 1822-92

As well as being the sole professor at New York's newly established Columbia School of Law from 1858 to 1873, before becoming dean until 1891, Theodore William Dwight also had a particular interest in prison reform. He collaborated on the 1867 *Report on the Prisons and Reformatories in the United States and Canada* endorsing the reformatory approach to legal punishment, and served as president of the New York Prison Association. He was also a delegate to the 1878 International Prison Congress in Stockholm.



Dwight was an active member of the prison and legal system



Ancus Marcius set up the first state prison in Ancient Rome, primarily as a place to hold those awaiting execution

ANCUS MARCIUS

ROMAN, C.678 BCE-616 BCE

The only state prison in ancient Rome was built by the fourth king of Rome, Ancus Marcius, to deal with the growing number of lawbreakers. As incarceration was not a sentence under Roman law, Marcius' Mamertine Prison was mainly used as a place to hold those awaiting execution. It consisted of an underground chamber that could only be accessed via a hole in the roof, through which the prisoners were lowered and often never returned from.



There is a statue of John Howard in St Paul's Cathedral - he was the first civilian to receive such an honour

The contents of John Howard's book about the state of prisons were considered so shocking that some countries, such as France, banned it

SIR JOSHUA JEBB

BRITISH, 1793-1863
Appointed surveyor-general of prisons in 1837, royal engineer Joshua Jebb designed several new prisons that pioneered the 'separate system'; the separate housing of inmates in wings radiating out from a central hall. His most notable creation was Pentonville Prison in London, which featured heating, lighting, ventilation and sanitary arrangements in each cell and became a model for future prison construction. Jebb was later appointed chairman of the Directors of Convict Prisons and received a knighthood in recognition for his work.



Jebb's prison designs became the blueprint for future construction

JOHN HOWARD

BRITISH, 1726-90

Having experienced a French prison first-hand when his ship was captured in 1756, John Howard was appalled to discover that British jails were no better when he was tasked with supervising the county jail as high-sheriff of Bedfordshire. Voicing his concerns led to two 1774 parliamentary acts outlining improvements to prison management, but when the proposals were not carried out, Howard embarked on a tour of European jails to investigate the matter further. He travelled over 80,000 kilometres and wrote books promoting the use of prisons for reform and rehabilitation, not just punishment, inspiring the work of the 1866 Howard Association charity founded in his honour.



Dorothea Dix was a staunch advocate for improving the treatment of the mentally ill

DOROTHEA DIX

AMERICAN, 1802-87

Dorothea Dix first experienced the appalling treatment of mentally ill prisoners when she began teaching at a women's prison in Massachusetts in 1841. Infuriated after discovering the inmates caged and chained and living in cold and unsanitary conditions, she launched a campaign for reform and successfully secured funds to establish a state asylum. She then spread the message to other states, establishing six more asylums by 1845, before eventually setting her sights on the US government. Even though her proposal for a national fund for mental health care was vetoed by the president, she continued campaigning at home and abroad until she died.

THOMAS MOTT OSBORNE

AMERICAN, 1859-1926

As chairman of the New York State Commission on Prison Reform, Thomas Mott Osborne decided the best way to learn about the condition of prisons was to experience one first-hand. Using the fake name Tom Brown, he spent a week living as inmate '33,333X' in Auburn Prison, and wrote about the harrowing experience he and the other prisoners faced. His time there inspired him to turn America's prisons from "human scrap heaps into human repair shops" and so he established the Mutual Welfare League and the National Society of Penal Information to help reform prisoners into respectable citizens.



Henry's influence on the court process shaped the system we recognise today

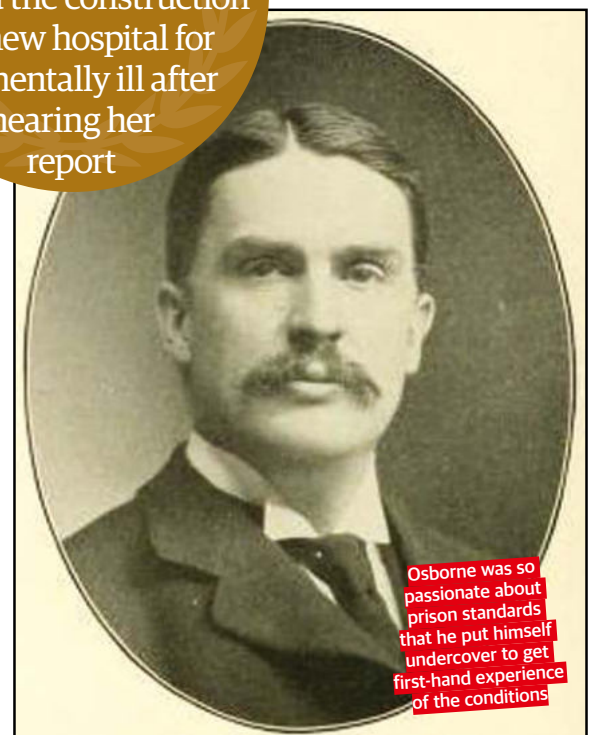
HENRY II

ANGEVIN, 1133-89

Many consider King Henry II the father of English common law, as he transformed it from a system of trial by combat to one of trial by grand jury. As well as establishing courts, he also ordered the construction of many jails, including Newgate Prison in London, to hold those awaiting trial.

During a European visit, Dorothea Dix met Pope Pius IX, who ordered the construction of a new hospital for the mentally ill after hearing her report

The conditions in these jails were pretty basic, with prisoners sleeping on the bare earth and having to pay the warders for food and blankets.



Osborne was so passionate about prison standards that he put himself undercover to get first-hand experience of the conditions



The lives of the Boleyn sisters were full of passion, intrigue and tragedy

The BOLEYN SISTERS

Groomed for greatness: how two siblings became Henry VIII's obsession

Written by Elizabeth Norton

Anne Boleyn's death on 19 May 1536 caused a stir across Europe. The death of Mary Boleyn seven years later attracted no notice at all. While the sisters had once followed each other to the royal courts of France and England, their fates were very different indeed. Anne and Mary both captivated Henry VIII, but only one was born to rule.

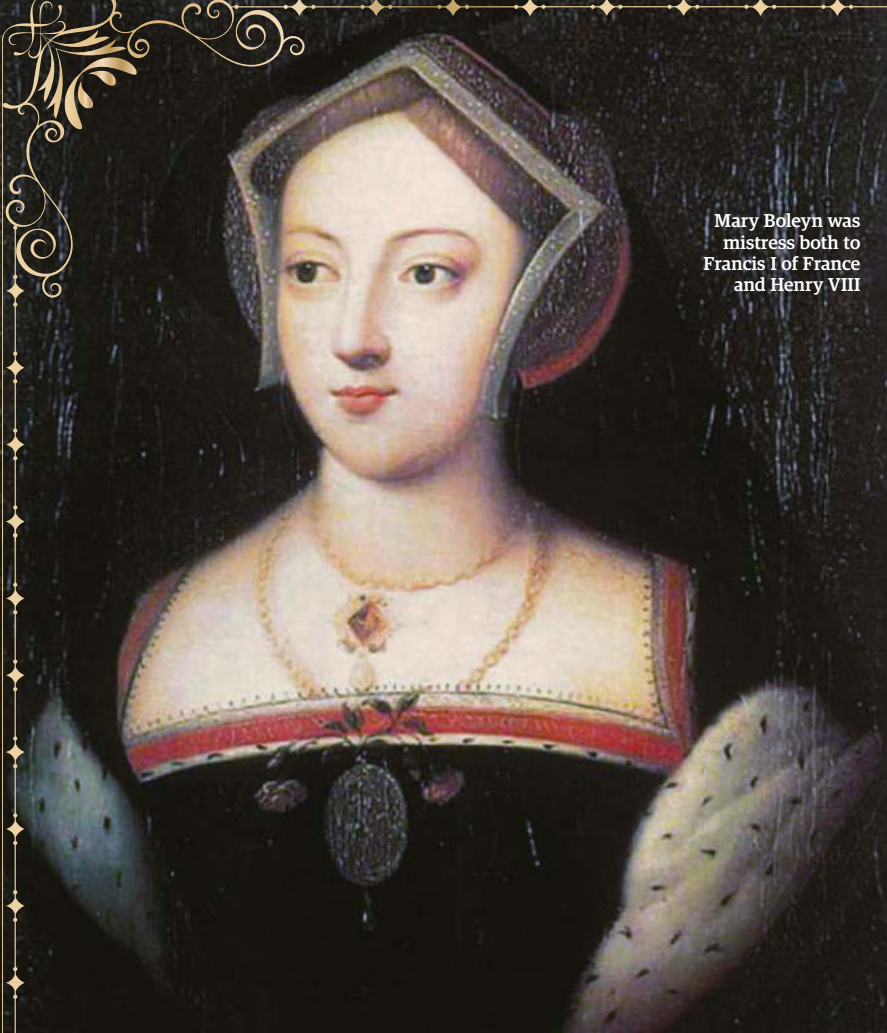
The sisters' births were so insignificant that no record was made of when, or where, they occurred. Mary was probably the eldest, born circa 1499, with her sister following a year or so later. A brother, George, completed the family, who were probably all born at Blickling Hall in Norfolk, England.

Mary and Anne's father, Sir Thomas Boleyn, was a gentleman, but he was also the descendant of London trade. His paternal grandfather had been a hatter, who became fabulously wealthy and went on to serve as lord mayor of London. He founded the family's fortune. Thomas Boleyn was a courtier, marrying the eldest daughter of the Earl of Surrey (later the second Duke of Norfolk) towards the end of the 15th century. Although (as Thomas later complained), his wife brought him "every year a child," the couple still managed to live in some style, with their children tutored at home at Blickling and, later, Hever Castle in Kent, which Thomas inherited in 1505.

The sisters' father was a quick-witted, educated man and renowned as the best French speaker at the English court. He was often sent on diplomatic embassies by Henry VIII, including one to Margaret of Austria, regent of the Netherlands, in 1512. Thomas and Margaret quickly established a rapport, developing such an easy relationship that they made a friendly wager over the likely outcome of the negotiations between Henry VIII and Margaret's father, the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian. The pair were so friendly that Thomas was able to secure the acceptance of one of his daughters into the regent's household. Surprisingly, he chose his youngest daughter - Anne.

Anne was dark skinned and raven haired at a time when a pale face and blonde hair was the ideal standard of beauty. In appearance, she had little to recommend her, save her dark almond shaped eyes, which were captivating. Mary was, by all accounts, the more attractive of the two sisters, but Thomas evidently saw something else in his younger daughter, noting the intelligence that would later bring her to the throne of England.

Anne set out for Brussels in the summer of 1513, where she did not disappoint. Margaret wrote personally to Thomas to inform him that his daughter had arrived safely and that she was "of such good address and so pleasing in her youthful



Mary Boleyn was mistress both to Francis I of France and Henry VIII

pregnant and entirely overshadowed by her dashing, but unfaithful, husband. One brief affair was with the teenaged Mary Boleyn, whom the ungallant Francis would later describe as a "great whore." She was hurried home by her family and, on 4 February 1520, married the courtier William Carey - a solid, but unspectacular match. Mary also secured a place with Henry VIII's wife, Katherine of Aragon, at the English court. Her sister remained in France, becoming French in all but birth.

Mary Boleyn arrived at the English court at roughly the same time Henry VIII was casting an eye around for a new mistress. The English king was still in his youthful prime and renowned as the most handsome prince in Europe. He had also recently fathered a son, Henry Fitzroy, although not with his Spanish queen, Katherine of Aragon, whose last pregnancy had ended in 1518 with a stillbirth. Fitzroy's mother, Elizabeth Blount, was rewarded with marriage to a peer, creating a vacancy in the king's bedchamber.

Mary Boleyn was more conventionally beautiful than her sister and had been well-schooled by her mother, the accomplished courtier Elizabeth Howard. It was speculated that Elizabeth herself had been a mistress of the king's, but when Henry VIII was later challenged that he had 'meddled' with both Anne Boleyn's mother and sister, he replied bashfully "never with the mother." With Mary, however, it was a different story.

Unlike Francis I, Henry VIII was discrete in his love affairs, with little evidence of his relationship with Mary, aside from

age that I am more beholden to you for having sent her to me than you are to me." Anne quickly learned French, the language of Margaret's court, with her first surviving letter - appropriately enough addressed to her father - setting out the progress of her studies.

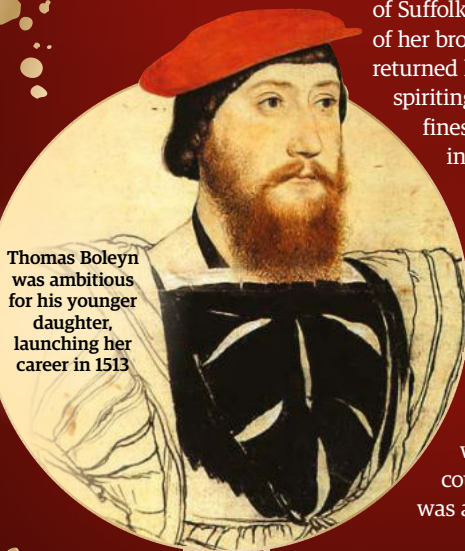
Anne made an immediate impression on Margaret, but her time with the regent was brief. In late 1514 she left Brussels to serve the young English princess, Mary Tudor, when she married Louis XII of France. There, Anne joined her sister, who was one of the ladies-in-waiting that accompanied Queen Mary to her new kingdom. The sisters were among the few English attendants who were permitted to remain after the wedding.

While marriage to a beautiful teenager initially invigorated Louis, he was dead within three months. The sisters then joined the widowed queen in seclusion at Cluny. During that time, their mistress secretly married Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, the greatest friend of her brother, Henry VIII, and returned home in disgrace -

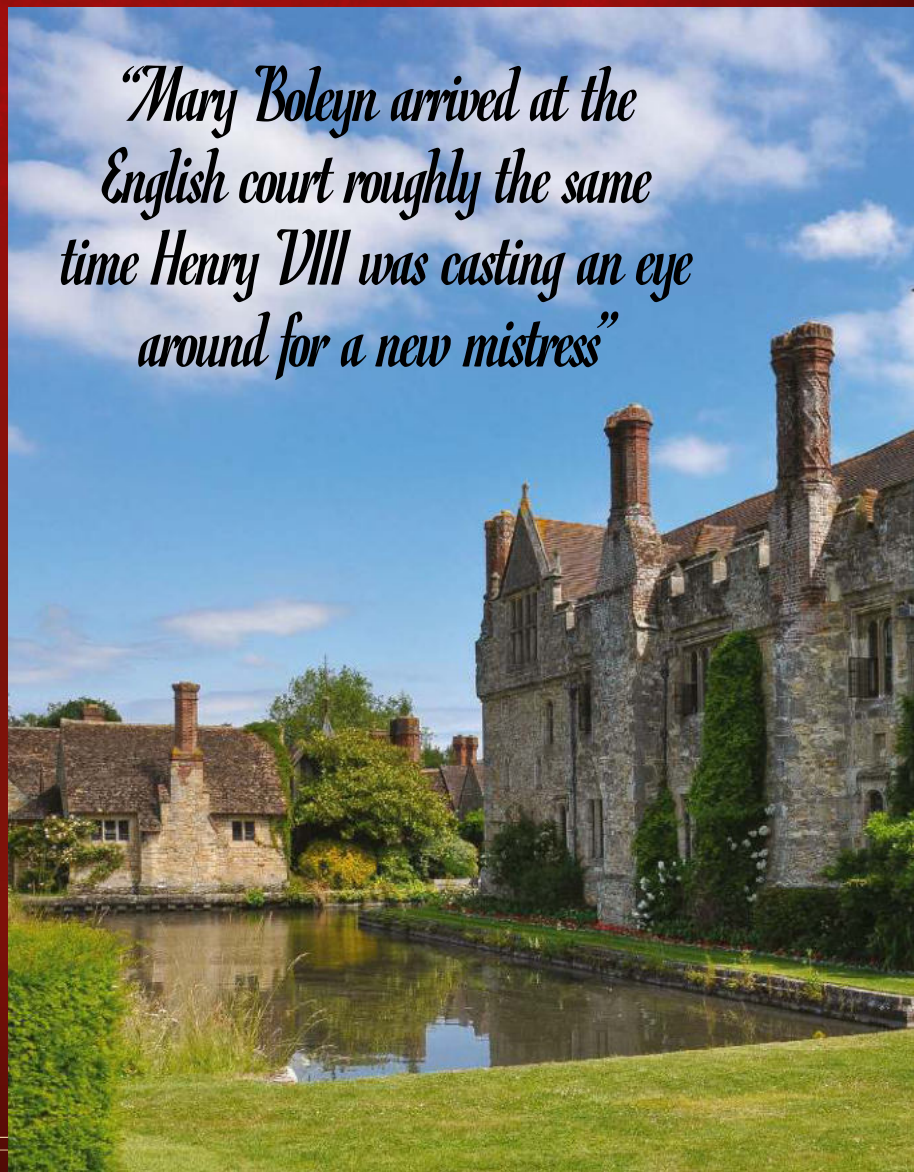
spiriting away some of the finest French royal jewels in the process.

This was not to prove the end of Anne and Mary Boleyn's time in France. They transferred to the household of the ugly, hunchbacked Queen Claude, who was the wife of Louis' cousin, Francis I. She was almost permanently

Thomas Boleyn was ambitious for his younger daughter, launching her career in 1513



"Mary Boleyn arrived at the English court roughly the same time Henry VIII was casting an eye around for a new mistress"





Henry VIII was still the most handsome prince in Europe when he married Anne Boleyn

Although not conventionally beautiful, Anne Boleyn's dark eyes were captivating



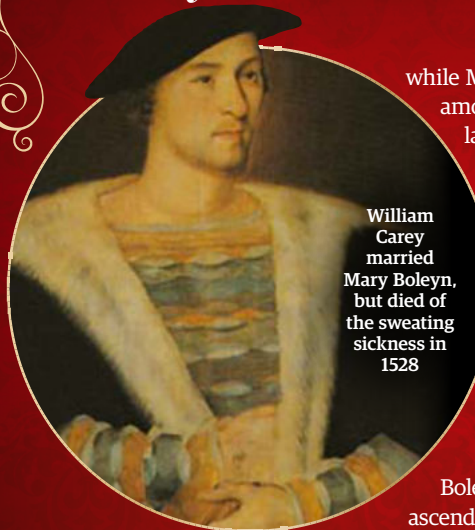
Hever Castle in Kent, the childhood home of the Boleyn sisters

his own later admission. From early 1522, Mary's husband began to receive significant royal grants, suggesting that he accepted the relationship between his wife and the king. Mary, who remained in Katherine of Aragon's household, also began to star in court masques and entertainments. While there is no evidence that either her husband or her parents pressed her to accept the king, they may have done. William Carey received a number of financial incentives, while Thomas Boleyn was appointed treasurer of the household in April 1522, a Knight of the Garter the following year and, in June 1525, ennobled as Viscount Rochford.

Mary's children, too, may have been fathered by the king, although Henry acknowledged only one illegitimate child - Henry Fitzroy - during his lifetime. In around 1524 she gave birth to a daughter, Catherine Carey, while a son, Henry, followed in March 1526. There were certainly rumours about the children, with the vicar of Isleworth, for one, stating during his examination by the royal council on 20 April 1535 that "Mr Skidmore did show to me young Master Carey, saying that he was our sovereign lord the king's son by our sovereign lady the queen's sister, whom the queen's grace might not suffer to be in the court." Since Mary was married throughout her affair with Henry, the children's paternity may have been uncertain, but the rumours later damaged the relationship between the Boleyn sisters.

Thanks to her relationship with Henry VIII, it was Mary who was the most prominent Boleyn in the early 1520s. Anne finally returned to England in early 1522 when, no doubt thanks to her sister's influence, she was able to enter Katherine of Aragon's household. That March, she was honoured by being appointed as one of only eight court ladies to dance in a masque at Greenwich. The ladies, who each portrayed a virtue, were besieged in a mock castle by a group of masked knights, led by the king. It was 'Beauty' - portrayed by Mary Tudor - who danced with the king,

Boleyn Sisters



William Carey married Mary Boleyn, but died of the sweating sickness in 1528

while Mary Boleyn was prominent among the white satin clad ladies as 'Kindness'. Anne, appropriately enough as it would later prove, was 'Perseverance'. A place was also found for the siblings' future sister-in-law, Jane Parker, a woman later accused by one courtier of being driven by her "lust and filthy pleasure."

Thanks to Mary, the Boleyn family were in the ascendancy in the early 1520s, although Anne's time at court was

to be brief. Soon after arriving, she entered into a secret relationship with Henry Percy, heir to the earldom of Northumberland and leagues above her socially. The young man, who enjoyed visiting Katherine's household, would "fall in dalliance among the queen's maidens" and openly favoured the graceful Anne. It was soon rumoured that the couple were engaged, with both Cardinal Wolsey - in whose household Percy served - and the king becoming furious when they heard. Percy's father was equally enraged, spiriting his son away where he was hurriedly married to the daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury. Anne was sent home to Hever in disgrace.

During Anne's time in Kent, Mary Boleyn's relationship with the king began to fizzle out. Although she had been his mistress for years, Mary, as a married woman, had no hopes of marrying the king. Nor would Henry VIII have even considered it. The king, who had come to the throne as a 17 year old in 1509, had almost immediately married his former sister-in-law, Katherine of Aragon - the widow of his elder brother and more than five years his senior.

At first, the royal marriage had seemed to be a love-match, with Henry taking delight in surprising Katherine with dancing and merriments. As the years passed, however, the age gap between the couple, which had once seemed so insignificant, became a chasm. Katherine, who lost all but one of her children - a daughter, Mary - in infancy, turned to the church for solace, while Henry looked towards other women. By 1525, when Anne Boleyn was finally permitted to return to court, he had no prospect of a legitimate son.

When Anne Boleyn caught Henry's eye around 1526, he was looking only for a new mistress, hoping that she would replace her sister in his affections. In February 1526 he made a public display of his new love by arriving at a joust wearing the motto 'Declare I dare not.' To Henry's surprise, Anne - who had witnessed her sister's abandonment - refused to follow her into the king's bed.

Instead, she retreated home to Hever, where she was followed by Henry's increasingly ardent and frustrated letters. He said he was reminded "of a point in astronomy which is this: the longer the days are, the more distant is the Sun, and nevertheless the hotter; so is it with our love, for by absence we are kept a distance from one another, and yet it retains its fervour, at least on my side." In another missive, he complained that "it seems a very poor return for the great love which I bear you to keep me at a distance both from speech and the person of the woman that I esteem most in the world." He was desperate to hold her in his arms, "whose pretty dukys [slang for breasts] I trust shortly to kiss."

Although she must have been flattered, Anne continued to refuse Henry, even when he finally offered her the unprecedented position of his official mistress, to whom

"Anne, who wanted to marry well, was not interested in becoming Henry's concubine"

A painting depicting the Field of the Cloth of Gold, which was a summit in 1520 designed to forge the bonds of friendship between Henry VIII and King Francis I of France





Henry Carey, 1st Baron Hunsdon, who was rumoured to be the son of Henry VIII

he would (as he wrote) cast "off all others than yourself out of mind and affection, and to serve you only." Anne, who wanted to marry well, was not interested in becoming Henry's concubine. She was shocked when - desperate to have her at any cost - the king did the unthinkable and proposed marriage. Anne was back at court by 5 May 1527 when Henry led her out publicly as his dancing partner for the first time. Just 12 days later, a secret ecclesiastical court opened in London to try the validity of his marriage to Katherine of Aragon.

Neither Henry nor Anne can have realised quite how difficult securing an annulment of the king's marriage would be. Relying on a Biblical prohibition against marriage to a dead brother's wife, Henry argued that his marriage had been invalid from the start. His wife, however, was not prepared to go quietly, enlisting her powerful nephew, the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, who was prepared (as he said) to "defend the queen's just cause." Katherine and Anne, who remained in the Spanish queen's household, were soon bitter rivals, although Henry kept up the pretence of his relationship with Katherine, continuing to dine with her and, even, requiring her to carry out the wifely duty of making his shirts.

Henry instructed his chief minister, the wily Cardinal Wolsey, to find a way to end his marriage. Anne, who blamed the cardinal for the end of her relationship with Henry Percy, was prepared to work with him to secure her desires, but the pair were not friends. In private, Wolsey referred to her as a "serpentine enemy" who whispered in the ear of the king. Anne, for her part, worked to reduce the cardinal's influence over his master. She was resident at court with her mother and sister. The Boleyn women kept abreast of the news from Rome, actively seeking out ambassadors who had returned from Henry's embassies to the Pope.

While the fiery Anne quarrelled with her uncle, the Duke of Norfolk, and other members of the court, she relied on her family for support. Her father was granted his maternal grandfather's earldom of Ormond in 1529, something that he had sought for 14 years. He also received the English earldom of Wiltshire.

Anne also attempted to assist her sister, Mary, who was suddenly widowed in 1528 when William Carey was struck

Social court climbers

The movers and shakers in Henry VIII's court



Cardinal Wolsey

Thomas Wolsey was the son of an Ipswich butcher. He prospered under Henry VIII, becoming archbishop of York and lord chancellor, while the pope appointed him a cardinal and papal legate. Henry VIII relied upon him, but he fell from favour when he failed to secure the king's divorce.



Charles Brandon

Charles Brandon's father died at Bosworth Field, fighting for Henry VII and he was raised at court. As Henry VIII's closest friend and jousting partner, he was created duke of Suffolk. In 1515 he secretly married Henry VIII's sister, Mary, becoming one of the wealthiest and most influential courtiers.



Thomas Cromwell

Thomas Cromwell, the son of a Putney blacksmith and a self-confessed 'ruffian' in his youth, rose to become Henry VIII's chief minister. He was one of the architects of the Reformation, but was blamed for Henry's disastrous marriage to Anne of Cleves. He was executed in 1540.



Elizabeth Barton

Elizabeth Barton was a servant from Kent who claimed she had heavenly visions. With the pope, Cardinal Wolsey, Thomas More and several bishops heeding her words, she was influential in attacking the king's marriage to Anne Boleyn. She was sentenced to hang by a furious Henry VIII.



Catherine Parr

Catherine Parr was a twice-widowed courtier's daughter when she caught Henry VIII's eye in 1543. As his sixth wife, she served as regent of England and was the first Englishwoman to publish under her own name. Although beloved by the royal children, she had no role in Edward VI's regency.



Sir William Paget

William Paget, who was the son of a London bailiff, received an excellent education at St Paul's School, rising to become chief secretary of the Privy Council. On his deathbed, the king would see no one else, allowing Paget to help secure Edward VI's regency for his colleague, Edward Seymour.

Secrets of the French court

How Mary Boleyn became intertwined with French royal affairs

Anne and Mary Boleyn remained in France when their former mistress, Mary Tudor, who was the widow of Louis XII, returned to England in 1515. They transferred into the service of Claude, Louis' 15-year-old daughter and the wife of the new king, Francis I.

Francis was very different to his 'aged' predecessor. At 21, he was young, handsome and athletic, making no pretence of being faithful to his queen. He first made advances to his wife's stepmother, Mary Tudor, later recalling that she was "more dirty than queenly." He stopped short of consummating this relationship after being warned that, should the dowager queen become pregnant, the child might be attributed to Louis. Francis would therefore remain "plain Comte d'Angouleme, and never King of France."

Instead, Francis turned his attentions to the women of his court, who were rumoured to

be as promiscuous as their king. One who caught his eye was Mary Boleyn. The relationship was brief, but it was enough for the French king to later declare that Mary was "a very great whore and infamous above all." The elder Boleyn sister was soon shipped home by her scandalised family, while Anne - to whom no scandal was attached - remained in France.



The Boleyn Sisters served Mary Tudor



Francis I of France, who bedded Mary Boleyn and presided over Europe's most glittering court

How three lives led to a love triangle



Anne Boleyn

Anne Boleyn was one of the first Englishwomen to be queen

1501

Probable birth

Although her birth date was nowhere recorded, Anne is probably born in this year. She spends most of her childhood at Hever Castle, which was the primary seat of the Boleyns.

1513

Serves Margaret of Austria

Anne travels to serve Margaret of Austria, regent of the Netherlands in Brussels. She reluctantly leaves the following year to transfer to the household of Queen Mary Tudor in France.

1522

Returns to England

Anne returns to England when it is proposed that she marries her Irish cousin, James Butler, to settle an inheritance dispute concerning the earldom of Ormond. The marriage comes to nothing.

1527

Agrees to marry Henry VIII

Henry VIII offers to marry Anne, after a long pursuit. She accepts and returns to court. The king opens an ecclesiastical case to try the validity of his marriage.



Henry VIII

England's most infamous monarch, who ushered in the Reformation

1491

Henry VIII's birth

Henry VIII is born on 28 June at Greenwich. As the second son of Henry VII, he becomes Prince of Wales following the death of his elder brother in 1502.

1509

Becomes king

Henry VIII becomes king at the age of 17. He immediately marries Katherine of Aragon, to whom he has been betrothed since childhood. She is the widow of his elder brother.

1519

The birth of Henry Fitzroy

Elizabeth Blount gives birth to Henry Fitzroy, proving that Henry can father a healthy son. Fitzroy is ennobled in 1525 while Katherine's daughter, Mary, goes to Ludlow as de facto princess of Wales.

1531

Supreme head of the Church

As a precursor to the Break with Rome, Henry forces the English clergy to accept him as supreme head of the Church of England and begins a series of anti-papal measures.



Mary Boleyn

The elder but less well-known Boleyn sister, who was mistress to two kings

1499

Probable birth

Mary Boleyn was probably born in 1499 at Blickling Hall in Norfolk. She is the eldest surviving child and raised with her younger sister, Anne, and brother, George.

1514

Arrival in France

Mary arrives in France to serve the new French queen. She was soon joined by her sister, Anne. Mary and Anne remain behind when their widowed mistress returns to England in 1515.

1520

Marries William Carey

Some time after returning to England, Mary marries the courtier, William Carey, on 4 February 1520, before taking up a court position in the household of Queen Katherine of Aragon.

1522

Becomes a royal mistress

Mary became Henry VIII's mistress in around 1522, bearing two children who may have been fathered by the king. Thanks to her prominence, the sisters danced at a court masque that March.



Margaret of Austria found Anne to be "so pleasing in her youthful age"



Henry obsessed over Anne

down by the terrifying sweating sickness - a highly infectious disease that could infect and kill within hours. Both Anne and her father also caught the Sweat in the outbreak that summer, with Henry (who kept himself safe from the sickness) sending his second best physician to her aid. She was fortunate, her sister less so. Finding herself financially exposed, Mary asked Anne for help, with the younger sister approaching the king about her "sister's matter."

Anne also attempted to secure the position of abbess of Wilton nunnery for Carey's sister, Eleanor, in opposition to Wolsey's candidate, although she was forced to concede defeat when the cardinal uncovered evidence that the nun had borne two children by two different priests. It was, however, a mark of Henry's deep affection for Anne that, while he could not so "destain mine honour or conscience" by appointing Eleanor, he would also not promote Wolsey's own candidate. When the cardinal failed to secure the king's divorce in a trial held at Blackfriars in 1529, it was clear his days were numbered. After being stripped of his lord chancellorship and surrendering his goods, he was finally arrested in 1530 by Anne's 'ancient suitor', Henry Percy, dying before he could reach the Tower of London.

By the early 1530s, Anne Boleyn was queen in all but name, with Henry finally separating from Katherine in the summer of 1531 when he abruptly left her at Windsor Castle. In September 1532 the king created Anne Marquess of Pembroke in her own right. The couple also visited France that autumn with Anne glittering in Katherine of Aragon's jewels, which she had demanded for the occasion. Although none of the French royal ladies had been prepared to meet with the English king's fiancé, the visit was a success, with Anne dancing before Francis in a masquing costume of cloth of gold and crimson tinsel satin. She took her sister, Mary, with her too, marking the first time the Boleyn sisters had been together again in France for around 15 years.

The visit was a huge success, with Francis - who was noted to speak privately with Anne for some time - assuring the couple of his support. It was around this time that Anne and Henry consummated their marriage for the first time and, by mid-January, Anne was aware that she was pregnant. The couple married on 25 January 1533, with only a few guests, including Anne's parents, present at the ceremony. Henry had still to free himself from his first wife, however.

Unsurprisingly, both Anne and her father were anti-papal in outlook and interested in religious reform. It was Anne who brought radical works to the king's attention and helped to persuade him to adopt a more radical solution. In 1531,

Despite pursuing Anne for years, as soon as they were married, Henry had affairs



"When the cardinal failed to secure the king's divorce... it was clear his days were numbered"

1529

The Blackfriars trial

Cardinals Wolsey and Campeggio convene a legatine trial at Blackfriars to investigate Henry's marriage. When Campeggio revokes the case to Rome, Anne and Henry turn on Wolsey, bringing about his ruin.

1532

Visit to France

Henry VIII and the Boleyn sisters return to France. Their meeting with Francis is a success and he assures them of his support. Soon afterwards, Anne and Henry consummate their relationship.

1533

Henry VIII marries Anne Boleyn

Henry VIII secretly marries a pregnant Anne Boleyn in January. He then breaks with Rome before annulling his marriage to Katherine. Anne is crowned and gives birth to Princess Elizabeth.

1536

Miscarriage and execution

The sisters are reconciled before Anne miscarries a son in January. Determined to end his marriage, Henry has Anne arrested on trumped-up charges of adultery. She is executed on 19 May.

1536

Henry marries Jane Seymour

Henry becomes betrothed to Jane Seymour the day after Anne's execution and marries her shortly afterwards. He marries a further three times after Jane's death in childbirth in 1537.

1536

The second Act of Succession

Henry passes the second Act of Succession, declaring both his daughters illegitimate. Henry is given the power to name his own successor, with Henry Fitzroy a likely candidate. Fitzroy dies soon afterwards.

1543

The third Act of Succession

Anne's daughter, Elizabeth, is restored to the succession along with her elder half-sister, Mary. She eventually succeeds to the throne in 1558 and reigns for more than 44 years.

1547

Henry VIII dies

Henry VIII dies on 28 January 1547 and is succeeded by his nine-year-old son, Edward VI.

1525

One relationship ends, another begins

Mary's relationship with Henry ends around this time, with the king instead looking to Anne Boleyn to become his new mistress. She refuses him and returned to Hever.

1528

William Carey dies

Mary's husband, William Carey, dies suddenly of the sweating sickness, leaving her a widow in her late twenties with two children to raise.

1534

Secret marriage

Mary secretly marries her servant, William Stafford. She appears at court visibly pregnant and is banished by her furious sister, who lost her own baby soon afterwards.

1543

Death of Mary Boleyn

Mary dies in obscurity seven years after her sister. She was wealthy, having inherited much of the Boleyn fortune from her parents. She leaves behind a husband and two children.

Henry blamed Anne for not giving him a son, sealing her fate in the Tower

Henry had forced the English clergy to accept him supreme head of the Church of England, although the break with the pope came only after the death of the aged William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, and his replacement by the radical Boleyn family chaplain, Thomas Cranmer, who was secretly married, was a religious reformer like his Boleyn patrons and was prepared to do the king's bidding. After repudiating his oath of loyalty to the pope, he formally pronounced the king's marriage to be invalid and crowned Anne Boleyn that summer. This was Anne's greatest triumph, although disappointment followed in September 1533 when she gave birth to a daughter - Princess Elizabeth - instead of Henry's anticipated son.

Throughout their careers in France and at the English court the Boleyn sisters had always been supportive of each other, but there were tensions in the relationship. Anne conceived a second child early in 1534 and, that summer, sent for her sister to attend her at the birth. To the surprise and anger of the queen and her parents, Mary appeared visibly pregnant and was soon forced to admit that she had secretly married a servant, William Stafford, earlier that year. She would later explain herself, begging the king's chief minister, Thomas Cromwell, whom she asked to intercede with her sister, to "consider, that he [Stafford] was young, and love overcame reason," and while "I might have had a greater man of birth and higher... I assure you I could never have had one that should have loved me so well, nor a more honest man." Mary was upset by her family's fury, but she was unrepentant, declaring of her husband that "I had rather beg my bread with him than be the greatest queen in Christendom." Mary Boleyn, who had been the mistress of kings, eventually chose love over worldly status.

This was a position that Anne, who had always sought to marry well and advance herself, could not understand.

Women of the French court

The rules of etiquette must be obeyed

◆ Give birth to a son

The queen's role was to provide an heir. Claude was almost continually pregnant, with her ladies assisting during her numerous confinements.



◆ Don't mind the mistress

French kings traditionally appointed official mistresses, such as Anne de Pisseleu d'Heilly, who shared Francis I's bed and also wielded real political power.



◆ Dress to impress

French women were graceful and stylish. Anne Boleyn favoured fashionable French hoods, which displayed a daring amount of hair.



◆ Keep foreign kings amused

Claude's ladies entertained the English king at the Field of the Cloth of Gold in 1520, with feasting and dancing.



◆ Go into quarantine

Widowed French queens, such as Mary Tudor, entered seclusion to ensure that they would not bear their husbands a posthumous child.



"On the very day of Katherine of Aragon's funeral, the queen miscarried a male foetus. Henry was furious"

She was furious with her sister, banishing her from court. It cannot have helped matters that, while Mary found domestic happiness, Anne's own marriage was falling apart.

Although Henry had faithfully waited for Anne for the best part of a decade, he was unfaithful to her almost immediately after the marriage was publicised, regularly taking mistresses and expecting his wife to conform to a more submissive wifely role than she may have expected. Anne's second pregnancy ended in miscarriage not long after Mary's secret was uncovered, adding to the queen's grief, although she had conceived again by the end of 1535.

It was this pregnancy that caused a reconciliation between the sisters, with Mary once again returning to court. Anne's happiness could not last, however, and in January 1536 - on the very day of Katherine of Aragon's funeral - the queen miscarried a male foetus. Henry was furious, declaring that he could see that "he would have no more boys by her." He had already begun a relationship with another court lady, Jane Seymour, and was soon determined to end his marriage.

On 30 April 1536 Mark Smeaton, who was a young musician in Anne's household, was arrested when he arrived to dine at the house of Thomas Cromwell in London. After being questioned in the Tower and probably tortured, he confessed to adultery with the queen. The next day, Anne was at Greenwich with her husband, watching the May Day jousts when Henry suddenly rose to his feet and stalked away. She never saw him again.

The next day Anne was in the Tower, with five men, including Smeaton and the Boleyn sisters' brother, George, who were accused of adultery with her. Although both Anne and George defended themselves eloquently at their trials, their deaths were foregone conclusions. The five men were executed on Tower Hill on 17 May 1536. Later that evening, Anne was informed that her marriage to the king had been annulled, probably on the grounds of his earlier relationship with Mary. Two days later, on the morning of 19 May, she walked to a scaffold on Tower Green and, after a short speech, was beheaded by sword.

It was a bloody end to what had been the greatest passion of Henry VIII's life. Mary, who was the only survivor of her siblings, perhaps reflected on her own lack of ambition saving her life. The sisters' lives had mirrored each other at times and also been dramatically different. Mary disappeared into obscurity after her sister's death, living out her years with the husband she had married for love. She died on 19 July 1543, only seven years after her sister.

© Henry



Henry wrote many love letters to Anne, 17 of which survive in the Vatican Library



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Through History

SPY GADGETS

Long before James Bond graced at our screens, real-life 007s have been using secret weapons to communicate covertly and fight hidden wars



This low-tech encryption tool literally meant 'baton' in Ancient Greek

SCYTALE 400 BCE

Pronounced like a rhyme for 'Italy,' a scytale was a baton that Spartan military commanders used to send secret messages during battle. Writing a message onto a strip of parchment or leather wound around the scytale, the letters would appear scrambled when unwrapped from the rod. To decipher the code, the recipient only had to wrap the message around their own same-sized scytale. Though crude by modern encryption standards, the scytale could be used quickly without making mistakes, even on the front lines. However, the wooden rod was just as likely to be snapped in the heat of battle.

COAL TORPEDO 1864

Like the Confederacy's own improvised explosive device, the coal torpedo was used to blow up Unionist steam ships during the American Civil War. A hollow casting filled with explosives and covered in coal dust, Confederate agents would hide the bombs among Union coal piles. When shovelled into a ship's firebox, the resulting explosion could cripple the engine, or even kill crewmen and passengers, start a fire, or sink the vessel. The device is thought to have brought down a number of ships, though documents confirming the attacks were burned during the last days of the war.

British agents used similar coal bombs to blow up Nazi steam trains and factories during WWII



PIGEON CAMERA

1917

As far back as Ancient Rome, carrier pigeons have been used as military messengers. But during World War I, both sides used pigeons as spy satellites. The pigeons were fitted with cameras, which clicked away as they flew, snapping aerial shots of military sites. The pictures were then developed and used to study enemy weapons and fortifications. Though soldiers would often try and shoot enemy war pigeons down to intercept messages, until the 1950s the birds had a 95 per cent success rate and were decorated with medals for their service.

John Walker

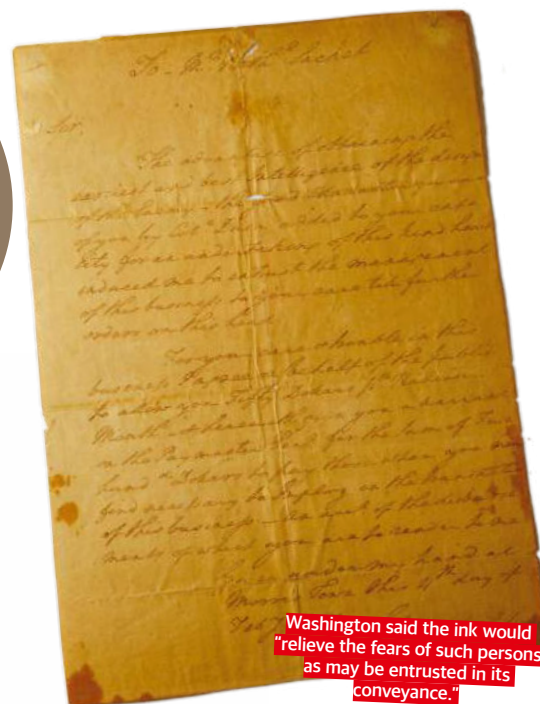
1937-2014, AMERICAN

This former US Navy warrant officer initially sold secret codes to the Soviets to pay off debts, but ended up working for the KGB from 1967 to 1985, recruiting his own family into his spy ring. Ironically when he was caught by the FBI, Walker was working as a private detective, finding listening devices for clients.

Dr James Jay

1732-1815, AMERICAN

This physician from a prominent New York family developed an invisible ink that allowed George Washington and his revolutionaries to communicate during the War of Independence. However, Jay later joined the Loyalists and was exiled to England, while his brother, John Jay, became the US' first chief justice.



Washington said the ink would 'relieve the fears of such persons as may be entrusted in its conveyance.'

The birds could produce more detailed pictures than other image-capturing methods

SYMPATHETIC STAIN 1778

During the War of Independence, American revolutionaries communicated using an invisible ink George Washington called 'the sympathetic stain.' This required one chemical for writing the message, plus a second to develop it for added security. The secret solution was created by Dr James Jay, who used the ink to smuggle military intelligence from London to America. He wrote this top-secret information at the bottom of short, friendly letters to his brother, John Jay, who was one of Washington's revolutionary Patriots. James later supplied quantities of the ink to Washington and Silas Deane, a revolutionary agent working out of France.





The Enigma machine used a series of rotors to scramble Nazi communications

ENIGMA MACHINE 1923

One of the most iconic examples of spook hardware, the Enigma cipher machine was a device for sending coded messages. The Nazi military famously used it during World War II to encrypt radio communications, such as troop positions. However, in 1943, the first computing machine in the world, the Colossus I, created in secret by British code-breakers working at Bletchley Park, including engineer Tony Flowers and mathematician Alan Turing, finally cracked it. It has been claimed that as a result of the information gained through this device, hostilities between Germany and the Allied forces were shortened by two years.



The shoe bug included a microphone, transmitter and batteries embedded in the heel

SHOE BUG 1960S

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Western diplomats in Eastern Europe avoided buying suits and shoes locally, preferring to mail order them from home. The Romanian Secret Service, or Securitate, used this to their advantage, working with the postal service to install a bug in the shoe's heel, turning the diplomat into a walking radio station. Around the same time, the KGB would have maids and valets fit transmitters into their employer's shoes. The transmitter wouldn't be detected during an electronic sweep of the diplomat's office for bugs unless the official was in the room at the time the sweep occurred.

ELECTRONIC COUNTERMEASURE KIT 1980

With listening devices being so easy to disguise, it was considered common practice among spies to check a room for bugs before discussing state secrets. Electronic countermeasure kits conveniently fit into a suitcase so as not to raise suspicion, but could be used to detect transmitters by scanning radio waves for a signal. While a kit like this could be bought by anyone in the 1980s, this particular model was used by John Walker, the KGB's most important spy in the United States, who was posing as a private investigator when the FBI caught him in 1985.



The KGB agent disguised the gun by rolling it up inside a newspaper

M44 CYANIDE GAS GUN 1950S

Gas-firing weapons were created by the KGB to kill silently and, at the time, be undetectable at autopsy. This double-barrelled gun fired cartridges containing glass vials of prussic acid. When fired, the vial was crushed and the acid converted into cyanide gas, which caused targets to go into cardiac arrest when shot in the face. In 1957, KGB agent Bohdan Stashynsky used the gun to kill Ukrainian dissidents Lev Rebet in 1957 and Stepan Bandera in 1959. Though the CIA suspected Bandera had been poisoned, they thought it had been by someone close to him and were unaware Rebet had been assassinated until Stashynsky defected.

Bohdan Stashynsky 1931, POLISH

This former KGB assassin was specially trained to use a cyanide gas gun, which could kill a target without detection. It was so effective, the CIA had no idea the weapon existed until Stashynsky told them about it when he defected to start a new life with his East Berlin wife.

LIPSTICK PISTOL 1965

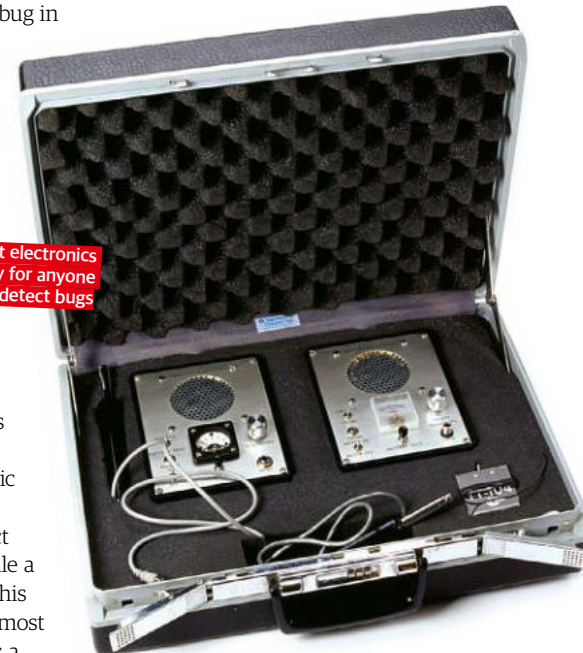
This tube of lipstick disguised a 4.5mm single shot firearm. Looking like something straight out of a *James Bond* movie, this weapon even had a pithy codename: 'The Kiss of Death'. However, rather than being used on-screen against 007 by a SPECTRE femme fatale, the lipstick pistol was actually carried by KGB agents during the Cold War. Designed to be easily hidden in a purse, the spy gadget was uncovered during a border crossing at an American checkpoint into West Berlin.



This mini pistol was only big enough to carry one bullet

COTTONMOUTH-1 2009

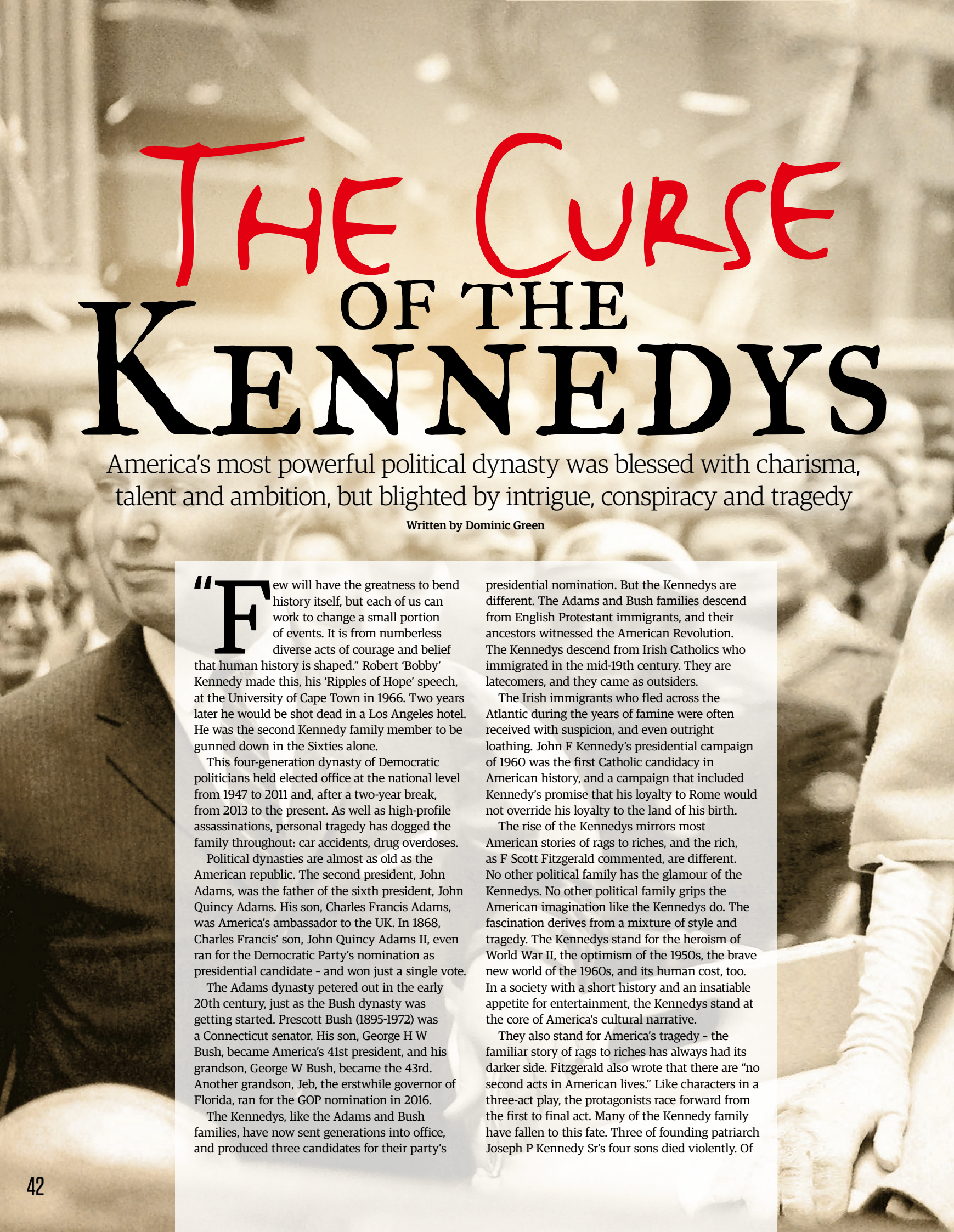
In the modern era, it's all about cyber sleuthing. We all use USB connectors - from plugging our mouse into our PC to charging our phones - but the NSA COTTONMOUTH-1 might make you think twice. This USB has a hidden radio transceiver built-in, so that it can covertly transmit files from, or install malware on, an 'air-gapped' network. That's spy-speak for a computer that intentionally doesn't have an Internet connection so it can't be remotely hacked. More advanced models can transmit over long-range radio signals, so the receiver doesn't have to be in the same room.



Mass market electronics made it easy for anyone to hide and detect bugs

Fittingly, the NSA spy tool was revealed in leaked reports in 2013





THE CURSE OF THE KENNEDYS

America's most powerful political dynasty was blessed with charisma, talent and ambition, but blighted by intrigue, conspiracy and tragedy

Written by Dominic Green

"Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped." Robert 'Bobby' Kennedy made this, his 'Ripples of Hope' speech, at the University of Cape Town in 1966. Two years later he would be shot dead in a Los Angeles hotel. He was the second Kennedy family member to be gunned down in the Sixties alone.

This four-generation dynasty of Democratic politicians held elected office at the national level from 1947 to 2011 and, after a two-year break, from 2013 to the present. As well as high-profile assassinations, personal tragedy has dogged the family throughout: car accidents, drug overdoses.

Political dynasties are almost as old as the American republic. The second president, John Adams, was the father of the sixth president, John Quincy Adams. His son, Charles Francis Adams, was America's ambassador to the UK. In 1868, Charles Francis' son, John Quincy Adams II, even ran for the Democratic Party's nomination as presidential candidate - and won just a single vote.

The Adams dynasty petered out in the early 20th century, just as the Bush dynasty was getting started. Prescott Bush (1895-1972) was a Connecticut senator. His son, George H W Bush, became America's 41st president, and his grandson, George W Bush, became the 43rd. Another grandson, Jeb, the erstwhile governor of Florida, ran for the GOP nomination in 2016.

The Kennedys, like the Adams and Bush families, have now sent generations into office, and produced three candidates for their party's

presidential nomination. But the Kennedys are different. The Adams and Bush families descend from English Protestant immigrants, and their ancestors witnessed the American Revolution. The Kennedys descend from Irish Catholics who immigrated in the mid-19th century. They are latecomers, and they came as outsiders.

The Irish immigrants who fled across the Atlantic during the years of famine were often received with suspicion, and even outright loathing. John F Kennedy's presidential campaign of 1960 was the first Catholic candidacy in American history, and a campaign that included Kennedy's promise that his loyalty to Rome would not override his loyalty to the land of his birth.

The rise of the Kennedys mirrors most American stories of rags to riches, and the rich, as F Scott Fitzgerald commented, are different. No other political family has the glamour of the Kennedys. No other political family grips the American imagination like the Kennedys do. The fascination derives from a mixture of style and tragedy. The Kennedys stand for the heroism of World War II, the optimism of the 1950s, the brave new world of the 1960s, and its human cost, too. In a society with a short history and an insatiable appetite for entertainment, the Kennedys stand at the core of America's cultural narrative.

They also stand for America's tragedy - the familiar story of rags to riches has always had its darker side. Fitzgerald also wrote that there are "no second acts in American lives." Like characters in a three-act play, the protagonists race forward from the first to final act. Many of the Kennedy family have fallen to this fate. Three of founding patriarch Joseph P Kennedy Sr's four sons died violently. Of



The Curse of the Kennedys



JOSEPH P. 'JOE'
KENNEDY, JR
MILITARY ACCIDENT

KATHLEEN
'KICK' KENNEDY
PLANE CRASH



ROBERT F. 'BOBBY'
KENNEDY
ASSASSINATION

PRESIDENT
JOHN F. 'JACK'
KENNEDY

ASSASSINATION



Joseph 'Joe' Kennedy's 31 grandchildren, four died prematurely, and in often bleak circumstance.

Joe Kennedy was the grandson of Patrick Kennedy, a farmer's son from County Wexford, who emigrated to Boston in 1849 with his wife Mary. Their son, Patrick Joseph 'PJ' Kennedy, became a businessman with political connections. His son, Joseph 'Joe' Kennedy Sr (1888-1969) became wealthy through investing in steel, movies, real estate and, after the end of Prohibition, in the importation of Scotch whisky. Prominent in the Massachusetts Democratic Party, Kennedy was appointed by President Franklin D Roosevelt to head the Securities and Exchange Committee and then, from 1938-40, as ambassador to London. From this post, Kennedy sent anti-British reports back to Washington and attempted to organise a rapprochement with Hitler.

Joe Kennedy was intensely ambitious. Sharing his father's dream of creating a dynasty, he married Rose Fitzgerald, the daughter of his father's rival, John 'Honey Fitz' Fitzgerald, the mayor of Boston. Joe raised their children to be competitive and boundlessly ambitious - they played famously aggressive games of 'touch football', and spoke in the mannered 'Brahmin' accents of Boston's old upper class. Joe was determined that his first son, Joseph Jr, would be the first Catholic president of Irish extraction - an ambition shared by his father-in-law 'Honey' Fitz, who intended Joe Jr to become "the future President of the nation."

In London, Joe's second daughter, Kathleen 'Kick' Kennedy, fell in love with William Cavendish, the eldest son of the Duke of Devonshire. Rose Kennedy opposed her daughter's marriage to a non-Catholic, but nonetheless the two married in May 1944. If ambition had brought the Kennedys to London, love brought the first of

many tragedies. The eldest Kennedy son, Joseph Patrick 'Joe' Jr, had completed a tour as a Navy pilot, but volunteered for Operation Aphrodite, as a test pilot for unmanned, remote control aircraft. In August 1944, Joe was killed when a test plane blew up in mid-air.

Three months later, William Cavendish was killed by a German sniper's bullet while fighting at Heppen, Belgium. Within a mere few weeks, Kick had lost her favourite brother and her husband. She found consolation with Peter Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, 8th Earl Fitzwilliam, a wealthy Commando officer estranged from his wife. In May 1948, Kick and Earl Fitzwilliam were killed

in a plane crash while en route to a holiday in the south of France.

The family kept the details of her death out of the newspapers. They also hushed up the fate of Kick's sister, Rosemary. Born with learning disabilities, Rosemary was kept out of the public eye, and isolated from society because Joe did not want to damage her siblings' prospects of political and social advancement. As a teenager, she was diagnosed with the mental capacity of a child between eight and 12 years of age, and sent to a convent. Her moods became increasingly unstable - perhaps because she was an adolescent, perhaps because she was frustrated by her mental

**"JOE RAISED THEIR CHILDREN...
TO BE BOUNDLESSLY AMBITIOUS"**

A family shot taken in 1939 of
Joe and Rose Kennedy with
their nine children



The Curse of the Kennedys



DAVID A.
KENNEDY
DRUG OVERDOSE

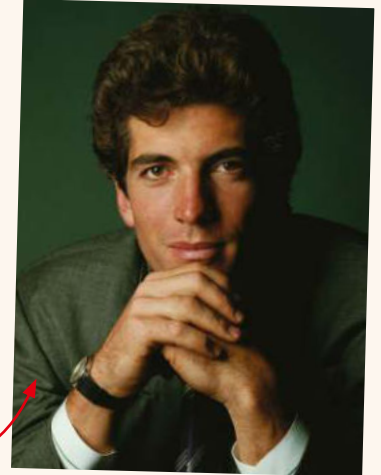


MARY
RICHARDSON
KENNEDY
SUICIDE



MICHAEL L.
KENNEDY
SKIING ACCIDENT

JOHN F.
KENNEDY, JR.
PLANE CRASH



THE DARK SECRET OF ROSEMARY KENNEDY

How JFK's sister was lobotomized and hidden from the public.

Rosemary Kennedy (1918-2005) was the eldest daughter of Rose and Joe Kennedy. Diagnosed with learning difficulties in childhood, Rose was placed in a convent and kept separate from other girls. Her mental age was assessed as comparable to that of a child between eight and 12 years old. This did not stop her from leading an active social life at times, and she was presented to King George VI when her father was American ambassador to the Court of St James.

Rosemary, experiencing puberty and frustrated with her disabilities, became increasingly aggressive and rebellious towards her parents and it wasn't long before

she was sneaking out of the convent. Joe Kennedy, unwilling to risk damage to his political ambitions for the family, decided to have his daughter lobotomized. The operation failed, leaving her permanently incontinent, and with the mental capacity of a two year old. Joe and Rose hid her in an institution in Jefferson, Wisconsin, and told the press that she was a recluse. Rose did not visit for 20 years, and Joe never visited at all. Rosemary lived another 63 years. "She was a sweet and lovely human being," her brother Ted Kennedy recalled. The tragedy may have inspired her sister Eunice to found the Special Olympics.



Rosemary Kennedy and her father in London, 1938. After the lobotomy he would never visit her in care

limitations. In response, in 1941 Joe had his 23-year-old daughter lobotomized. The operation went wrong, and reduced her to a helpless condition. She spent the rest of her life in a remote Catholic institution in Wisconsin, effectively written out of the Kennedy story.

After Joe Jr's death, the family's ambitions devolved onto his younger brother, John Fitzgerald 'Jack' Kennedy. After serving in the US Navy in the Pacific, Jack Kennedy entered Congress in 1947, then won a Senate seat in 1953. In the same year, he married Jackie Bouvier, a stockbroker's daughter from New York. In 1960, Kennedy became the youngest elected president in American history; only Theodore Roosevelt, who had succeeded to the office after the assassination of William McKinley, was younger on entering the White House. JFK's younger brother Robert 'Bobby' Kennedy entered the White House

with him. Amid accusations of nepotism, Jack appointed Bobby as attorney general.

Kennedy was not the first American president to be assassinated, but he was the first whose death was captured in colour film, and broadcast around the world. He had embodied youthful optimism as well as traditional patriotism.

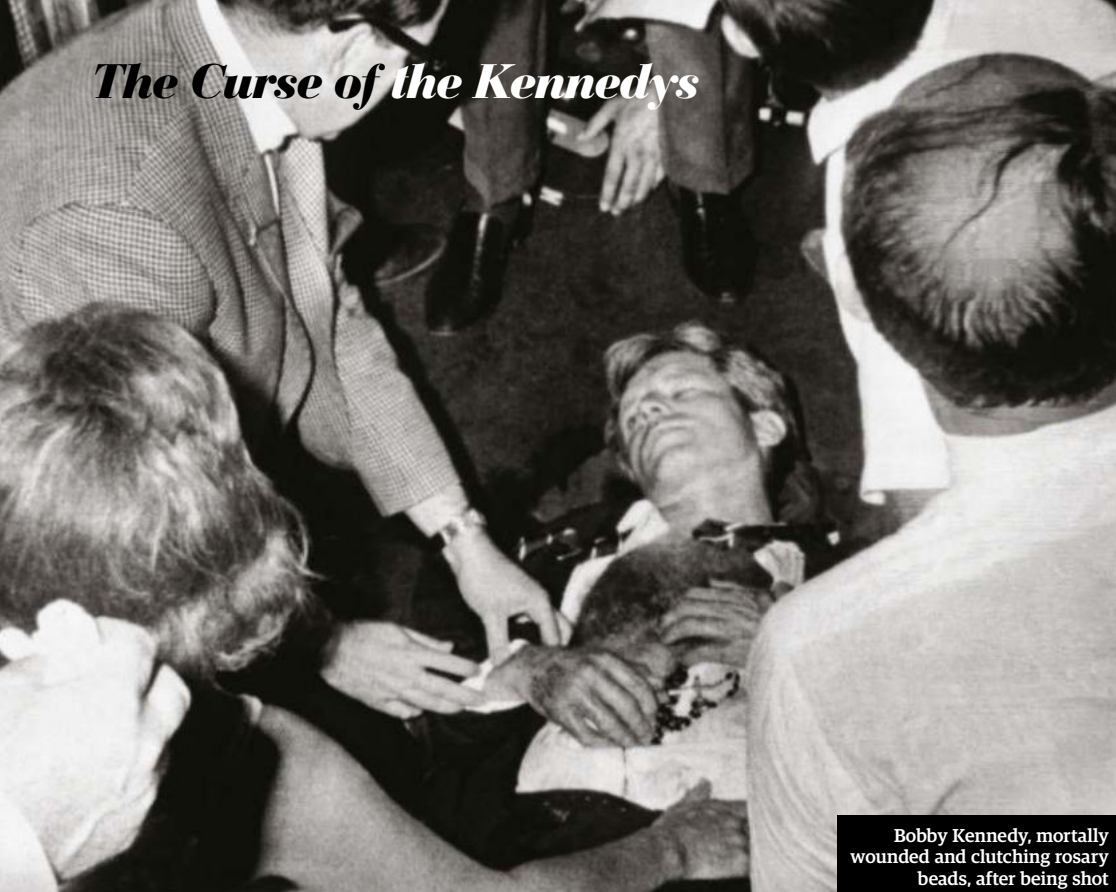
The JFK who challenged the Soviets in launching the Space Race and declaimed 'Ich bin ein Berliner' by the Berlin Wall was also the JFK who consorted with film stars and courted the news media. The legend of the Kennedy White House as an enchanted and glamorous Camelot, a modern court of King Arthur, is coloured by Kennedy's assassination and the images of Jackie and their young children, Caroline and John Jr, at his grave. Privately, the Kennedys suffered the loss of two children in early infancy. Their marriage also suffered from Jack Kennedy's constant

philandering, the most famous example of which was Marilyn Monroe.

After JFK's assassination, Bobby Kennedy entered the Senate for New York State. By 1968, he was the leading candidate for the Democratic nomination. In June 1968, shortly after winning the California primary, Bobby Kennedy addressed his supporters at a hotel in Los Angeles. A Palestinian named Sirhan Sirhan shot him three times at point blank range because, Sirhan said, the Kennedys supported Israel. His widow, Ethel Skakel Kennedy, was left with 11 children.

The last and youngest of the Kennedy brothers stepped into the breach, but faltered almost at once. In fact, Edward 'Ted' Kennedy was lucky to be alive at all. In 1964, a light aircraft in which he was travelling crashed in bad weather in western Massachusetts. The pilot and one of Ted Kennedy's aides were killed. Kennedy spent

The Curse of the Kennedys



Bobby Kennedy, mortally wounded and clutching rosary beads, after being shot



JFK's family make their departure after his funeral



Ted Kennedy's handling of his car accident ended his family's political streak



Bobby, Ted and Jack - out of the three here, only Ted lived to see his old age

months in recovery, with injuries to his spine, ribs and lungs.

Nor did Ted Kennedy show signs of the intellect and integrity with which Jack and Bobby had distinguished themselves. Jack had won medals as the captain of a Navy torpedo boat. Bobby had taken on the Mafia and was, his father Joe Sr said, as "hard as nails". Ted was drafted into the Army, but never saw combat or rose above the rank of private. Academically indifferent, he played football at Harvard and was caught cheating in an effort to raise his grades. Still, Kennedy connections secured him a Senate seat in 1962.

The assassinations of Jack and Bobby Kennedy left Ted the surrogate uncle to their children, and the last repository of his father's expectations. He was already tipped for the 1972 Democratic nomination. But in July 1969, Ted's political prospects ended overnight at Chappaquiddick, a small island off Martha's Vineyard. After a party for the 'Boiler Room Girls', a group of young women who had worked on Bobby Kennedy's 1968 campaign, Ted Kennedy left with Mary Jo

"TED WAS DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY"

Kopechne. Shortly afterwards, Kennedy's car tipped off an unlit bridge and into a tidal channel. Kopechne died.

In his statement to the police, Kennedy later insisted that he had been taking Kopechne to the nearby ferry station at Edgartown. But Kopechne left her keys and purse at the party, as well as her underwear, and the road to the bridge did not lead to Edgartown. Kennedy stated that he had no recollection of how he had escaped from the car, which had flipped upside down in the shallow water, and that he had dived into the water several times, to try to rescue Kopechne.

But Ted Kennedy did not call the police. Instead, he walked back to the party. On the way, he passed four houses whose telephones he could have used. He did not. At the party, he told two male friends what had happened, and asked them not to tell the Boiler Room Girls. He took his friends to the crash

TIMELINE Seven decades of the Kennedy Curse

1941

Rosemary Kennedy, the eldest daughter of Joe and Rose Kennedy, is lobotomized because her father fears her disability and mood swings may damage the family's prospects.

1944

Naval pilot Joseph Kennedy Jr, Joe and Rose Kennedy's eldest son, is killed in an accident during the secret testing of remote control aircraft that are packed with explosives.

1948

Kathleen 'Kick' Kennedy, daughter of Joe and Rose Kennedy, and widow of the Marquess of Hartington, dies with her married boyfriend, the 8th Earl Fitzwilliam, in a plane crash in France.

1963

John and Jackie Kennedy's son, Patrick Bouvier Kennedy, dies two days after being born prematurely.

1963

President John F Kennedy is assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas, Texas. Then and now, a majority of Americans believe that Kennedy was killed in a conspiracy.

1964

A light plane carrying JFK's youngest brother, Edward 'Ted' Kennedy, crashes in western Massachusetts. The pilot and one of Kennedy's aides are killed; he survives with severe back injuries.

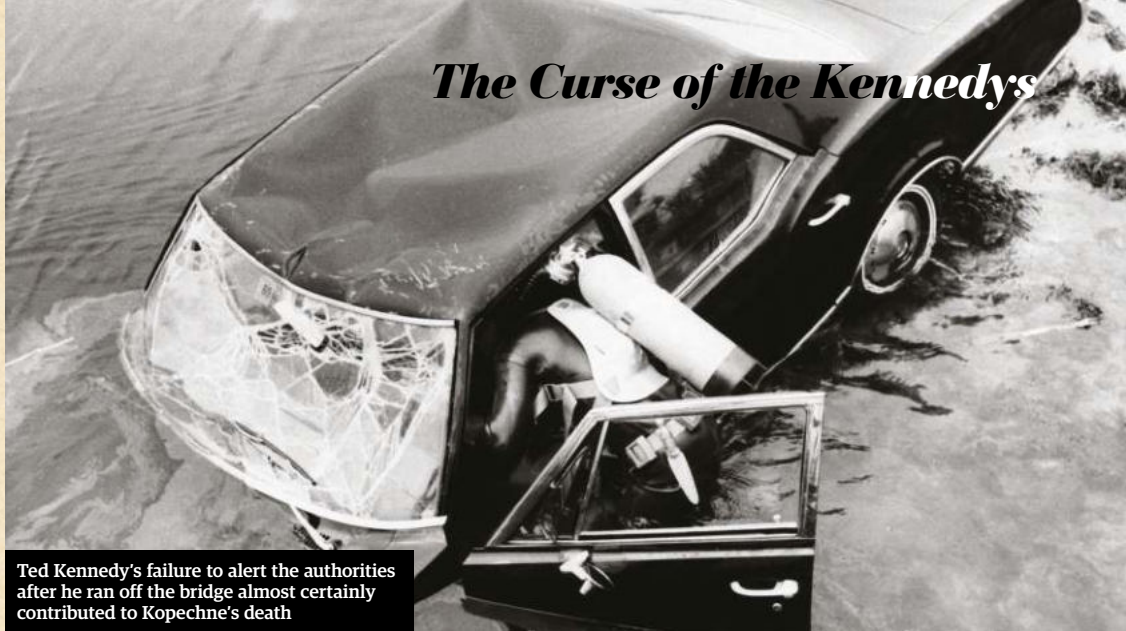
1968

Minutes after winning the crucial California primary for the Democratic presidential nomination, Robert Kennedy is assassinated by Palestinian Sirhan Bishara Sirhan for supporting Israel.

The Curse of the Kennedys

site, where they repeatedly dived into the water. They insisted that he call the police, and he agreed that he would. But instead, he swam across the sound to his hotel, and went to bed.

At 8am the next morning, Kennedy's friends confronted him at his hotel and insisted again that he call the authorities. He did not. Instead he called friends and asked for advice. Meanwhile, two fishermen alerted the police. A frogman found Mary Jo Kopechne's body sitting upright, and took ten minutes to free her. "She died of suffocation in her own air void," said John Farrar of the



Ted Kennedy's failure to alert the authorities after he ran off the bridge almost certainly contributed to Kopechne's death

JFK's SECRET CONDITIONS

THE MEDICAL HISTORY THAT JFK HID FROM THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

When JFK ran for office as a youthful and vigorous man of action, he misrepresented himself to the American public. In 2002, historian Robert Dallek obtained Kennedy's medical files for the years 1955-63. Kennedy suffered from prostate problems, adrenal deficiency, abscesses, digestive problems, and chronic back pain. He wore a spinal corset, required the sedative Tuinal in order to sleep, and was treated with a pharmacopeia of prescription drugs, including cortisone-type steroids for his adrenal problems, cocaine derivatives as painkillers, phenobarbital and testosterone for his stomach ailments and weight loss, and penicillin for sexually transmitted infections of the urinary tract. At one point during his presidency, Kennedy was receiving prescriptions from three doctors, and two of them did not know about the third - Max 'Dr Feelgood' Jacobson, most of whose treatments involved large doses of amphetamine. Perhaps fortunately, the other two doctors blocked Jacobson's treatments before Kennedy had to handle the Cuban Missile Crisis.

After Kennedy's assassination, it emerged that in 1947, when he was 30 and a first-term congressman, he had been diagnosed with the endocrine disorder Addison's disease. Kennedy also had a second endocrine disease, hypothyroidism. The presence of these indicates that he may have had a genetic disorder called Schmidt's Syndrome.



JFK's persona of healthy vigour hid a long list of serious health issues

Edgartown Fire Department. "It took her at least three or four hours to die. I could have got her out of that car twenty-five minutes after I got the call."

An inquest concluded that Kennedy had turned off the road to the ferry deliberately, and that the speed at which he had driven was "negligent and possibly reckless." But the State of Massachusetts did not prosecute a favoured son for manslaughter. At trial, Kennedy pleaded guilty of leaving the scene of an accident. The unanswered questions about Chappaquiddick cost him his presidential ambitions, and his wife a miscarriage. When Kennedy finally launched a presidential campaign in 1980, Jimmy Carter deflated his chances with allusions to Chappaquiddick, saying that he, unlike Kennedy, had never "panicked in a crisis."

The Kennedy name never recovered from Ted Kennedy's inexplicable behaviour at Chappaquiddick. The curse, however, seemed to endure even as the family's political fortunes declined. In 1973, Joseph P Kennedy II, who was Bobby Kennedy's son and Ted Kennedy's nephew, left his brother David's girlfriend paralysed after a car accident. David, who had learnt of his father's assassination from a newscaster in the confused moments after his shooting, was injured in the accident and became addicted to opiate painkillers, which soon turned to heroin. In 1984, David Kennedy celebrated the completion of a month-long detox programme by travelling to Palm Beach, Florida for Easter, where several family members were on holiday. A few days later, however, he was found dead in his hotel room after a drugs binge.

Thirteen years later, in 1997, another of Bobby Kennedy's sons died in a bizarre skiing accident.

1969

Ted Kennedy crashes a car into a tidal channel between Chappaquiddick Island and Martha's Vineyard, killing 28-year-old Mary Jo Kopechne. He left the scene without telling the authorities.

1973

Joseph P Kennedy II, the eldest son of Robert Kennedy, crashes his car, leaving his passenger, Pam Kelley, paralysed.

1984

David Kennedy, fourth son of Robert Kennedy, overdoses on cocaine and prescription sedatives in a Florida hotel room at the age of just 28.

1991

William Kennedy Smith, son of JFK's sister Jean, is tried for raping a woman on a Florida beach. Three other women claim that Smith raped them, but their testimony is rejected. Smith is acquitted.

1997

Thirty-nine year-old Michael Lemoyne Kennedy, sixth son of Robert Kennedy, hits a tree and is killed while playing American football on skis, and without a helmet.

1999

Socialite John F Kennedy, Jr, his wife and his sister-in-law are killed when 'John-John' crashes his plane off the coast of Martha's Vineyard.

2002

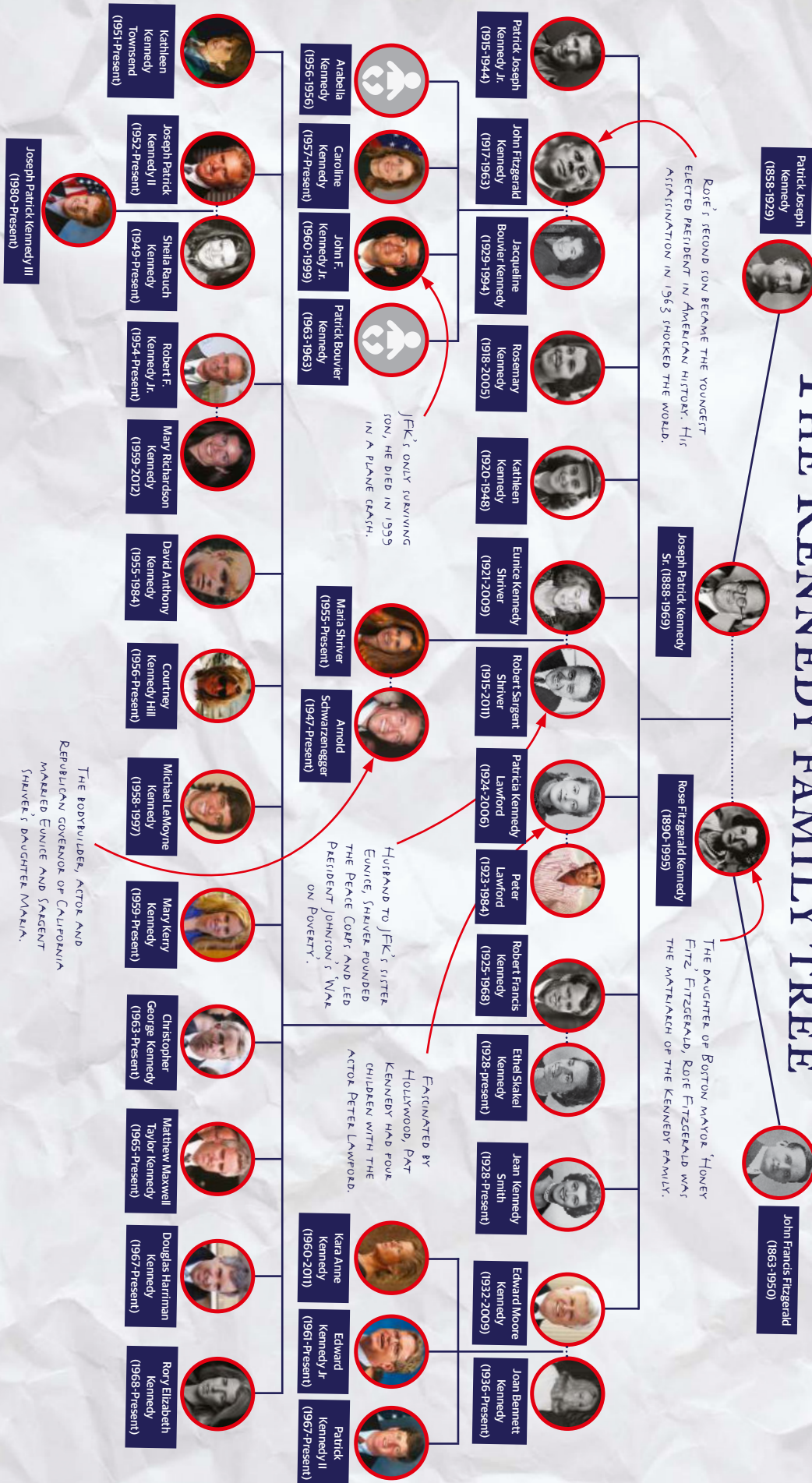
Michael Skakel, nephew of Robert F Kennedy's widow Ethel Kennedy, is convicted of the 1975 murder of his teenage neighbour, Martha Moxley.

2012

Mary Richardson Kennedy, the estranged wife of Robert F Kennedy, Jr, hangs herself in her barn after years of struggle against depression and alcoholism.

The Curse of the Kennedys

THE KENNEDY FAMILY TREE



Michael Kennedy was holidaying in a ski resort at Aspen, Colorado, and playing American football on skis. He was not wearing a helmet, and was killed when he skated into a tree. Two years after that, in 1999, JFK's only surviving son, John F Kennedy Jr, died when his private plane went into the Atlantic Ocean off Martha's Vineyard, en route to his cousin Rory Kennedy's wedding. His wife, Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy, and her sister Lauren died with him.

The unfulfilled life of JFK Jr (1960-99) reflects the decline of the Kennedy dynasty from ambitious public service to complacent private wealth. Trained as a lawyer, 'John-John' dabbled in journalism and acting, but excelled as a socialite. A recently qualified pilot, he did not hold a license for night flying, but delayed his take-off until dusk because his sister-in-law was held up at work. He was also flying with one ankle in a cast from a paragliding accident.

The retirement in 2011 of Rhode Island Congressman Patrick J Kennedy, son of Ted Kennedy, after a series of drink- and drug-related problems, ended the Kennedys' unbroken run in office

"THE CURSE IS TO BE BORN A KENNEDY"

from 1947 - and, apparently, Joe Sr's dream of an American Irish and Catholic dynasty. During the Chappaquiddick inquest, Ted Kennedy wondered aloud if "a curse actually did hang over all the Kennedys." But the real curse of the Kennedys is to be born a Kennedy - to be cursed with the expectation to live large, to be cursed with the obligation to strive for high office, and to be cursed with the impulse to tempt fate with hedonistic and dangerous behaviour.

The Kennedys are not finished yet, though. In 2013, a Kennedy returned to Congress with the Democratic Party's delegation from Massachusetts. Joseph P Kennedy III is Joseph P Kennedy II's son, Bobby's grandson, Jack and Ted's grand-nephew, and Joe Sr's great-grandson. A happily married teetotaler, he is tipped as a future Democratic candidate for the governorship of Massachusetts.



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_a royal welcome



What if... Britain & Russia had gone to war over Afghanistan?

Russia's march to imperial expansion could have been checked and the country degraded to a second-rate power in Asia if it had tried to take on the military might of British India

Written by Jules Stewart

Britain launched two invasions of Afghanistan in the 19th century in order to abort a perceived Russian incursion into the buffer state that separated British India from the Russian Empire. This was Great Gamesmanship at its most extreme: the two wars cost Britain nearly 30,000 casualties, failed to alter the status quo, and were undertaken on false intelligence, equivalent to the dodgy dossier of the day. But what if Russia had taken the fatal step of dispatching an army into Afghanistan?

Empires must expand to survive. Stagnation behind closed borders poses a continual danger to security. The tsar's subjugation of Tashkent, Samarkand and Khiva has taken Cossack cavalry to the banks of the Oxus River, within striking distance of British India. The gate of entry is Afghanistan. Russian foreign minister Count Karl Nesselrode, emboldened by Britain's catastrophes of 1839 and 1879, decides to move from brinksmanship to action. In the summer of 1880 tsarist armies launch a two-pronged assault, north from the Oxus and east from Herat, to secure Afghanistan's key military objectives before Calcutta can mobilise sufficient troops to counter the attack.

The viceroy, Lord Lytton, at his summer residence in Simla, learns of the attack from friendly Afghan agents in Kabul. He immediately telegraphs the commander-in-chief, General Sir Frederick Haines, ordering him to dispatch two columns through the Khyber and Bolan passes. As a veteran of the Crimean War, Haines is an experienced hand in confronting Russian aggression.

"It is no contest, as the tsar's troops are routed in a matter of weeks by the superior firepower of the Raj"

Nesselrode's rather reckless adventure triggers an interesting chain of events that eventually relegates Russia to the status of a second-rate power in Asia. Britain, having annexed the Punjab in 1849, has military units garrisoned on the North-West Frontier abutting

Afghanistan. Russian military supply lines stretch hundreds of kilometres through hostile territory. They are effectively fighting a two-front war against a seasoned, well-equipped British Indian Army and an Afghan insurgency determined to oust the invader. It is absolutely no contest, as the tsar's troops are routed in a matter of weeks by the superior firepower of the Raj. The way is now clear for Britain to 'liberate' the Russian-occupied khanates on Afghanistan's northern border, with the connivance of Abdul Rahman Khan, the

'Iron Emir', whose foreign policy has been under British control since the end of the Second Anglo-Afghan War.

For Russia, it is a downward spiral. Still smarting from defeat in Afghanistan, its next military humiliation comes in 1905 with the sinking of the fleet in the Russo-Japanese War. The Raj adds vast buffer territories to its empire, rendering even more remote the risk of a Russian attack. However, the real winner is undoubtedly Afghanistan. Freed from the menace of a hostile Russia and consequently the threat of preventive military action by Britain, the Soviet invasion of 1979 does not take place. There is no US-backed Mujahedin, no Taliban to put order in the civil war between rebel factions. A politically stable Afghanistan, for the first time in its turbulent history, is allowed to benefit from its strategic position on the Asian trade route.



JULES STEWART

Jules Stewart is a former journalist for Reuters who has reported from more than 30 countries. He is the author of ten books that deal mainly with the Anglo-Afghan wars of the 19th century and the North-West Frontier. His latest book, *Gotham Rising: New York in the 1930s*, marks a departure from his previous works, nevertheless Afghanistan and its troubled history in the context of the Great Game rivalry between Russia and Britain remains his primary area of interest.

How would it be different?

An agreement is made

Emir Abdur Rahman and the Raj amicably agree a demarcation line between both countries. This precludes the need for the Durand Line to safeguard defensive access to India.

12 November 1893

A mission is rejected

Abdur Rahman's son, the new emir, rebuffs a secret German mission sent to Kabul to persuade the Afghan ruler to invade British India in WWI.

1 March 1916

An attack is launched

King Amanullah, under pressure from extremist religious leaders at his court, launches an attack on British India, which becomes the Third Anglo-Afghan War.

1 May 1919

Negotiations are made

The Afghan Army is defeated, but in peace negotiations at Rawalpindi, Amanullah obtains the return of Afghan sovereignty in foreign policy from the British.

19 August 1919



What if... BRITAIN & RUSSIA HAD GONE TO WAR OVER AFGHANISTAN?

Russian troops would likely have fared poorly against the numbers and training of the British Raj soldiers

• A regime is installed

Mohammed Daoud Khan overthrows King Zahir Shah in a peaceful coup, and installs a regime focusing on developing Afghanistan's vast natural resources and modernising the country's infrastructure.

17 July 1973

• The Soviet Union is powerless

The Soviet Union, in its weakened state and lacking access through Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, is powerless to contemplate an invasion of Afghanistan.

24 December 1979

• A fortune is discovered

Afghanistan signs bilateral co-operation treaties with the US and European Union, who send trade missions and engineers to Kabul. The US Geological Survey announces a discovery of \$1 trillion in mineral wealth under Afghan soil.

11 September 2001

• The Durand Line is abolished

The Durand Line is abolished by agreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan, who work out a new line of demarcation to the satisfaction of the Pashtun tribes living on both sides.

9 November 2015

12 Medieval #Trends

From pigs on trial to hairless faces, discover what went viral in the Middle Ages

Written by Frances White

Every age has a tendency to look back at older generations and judge the customs, beliefs and traditions of the time. However, it is fair to say that there are few periods in history that we regard as strangely as we do the Middle Ages. They sometimes lack the mystic appeal of Ancient Egypt, the beauty of the Renaissance or the Elizabethan age's excitement and adventure. The Middle Ages have been stamped an unlucky time to be born and popular consensus is that people were poor, food was dull, everything was dirty, and for the vast majority of it the population was dropping like flies. What we don't hear about is that people created some of the most peculiar, bizarre, hilarious and astounding trends in human history. It's time to embrace the medieval period and all of its lovable eccentricities.



Hairless faces

LOCATION: WESTERN EUROPE

While today many women spend money to accentuate their lashes, it was completely different in the Middle Ages. Because the forehead was seen as the central point of their faces, women would remove their eyelashes and eyebrows in order to accentuate it. Some were so committed, they would pluck their hairlines to achieve a perfectly oval, bald face.



Medieval beauty was a case of hair today, gone tomorrow

Men's fashion

LOCATION: EUROPE

Clothes were hugely important to the medieval elite, as it was a way of displaying their wealth and overall superiority over the poor. Because of this, various unusual fashion trends swept through Europe, such as long, pointed shoes for men. The longer the shoes were the greater the wealth of the wearer and hence the social rank. Some of the shoes were so long they had to be reinforced with whalebone. Late 14th century men were keen to show off their bodies in saucy and revealing clothing, and would wear dangerously short tunics with tights. This trend was followed by the codpiece - a pouch attached to the front of men's trousers, shaped and padded to emphasise their masculinity.

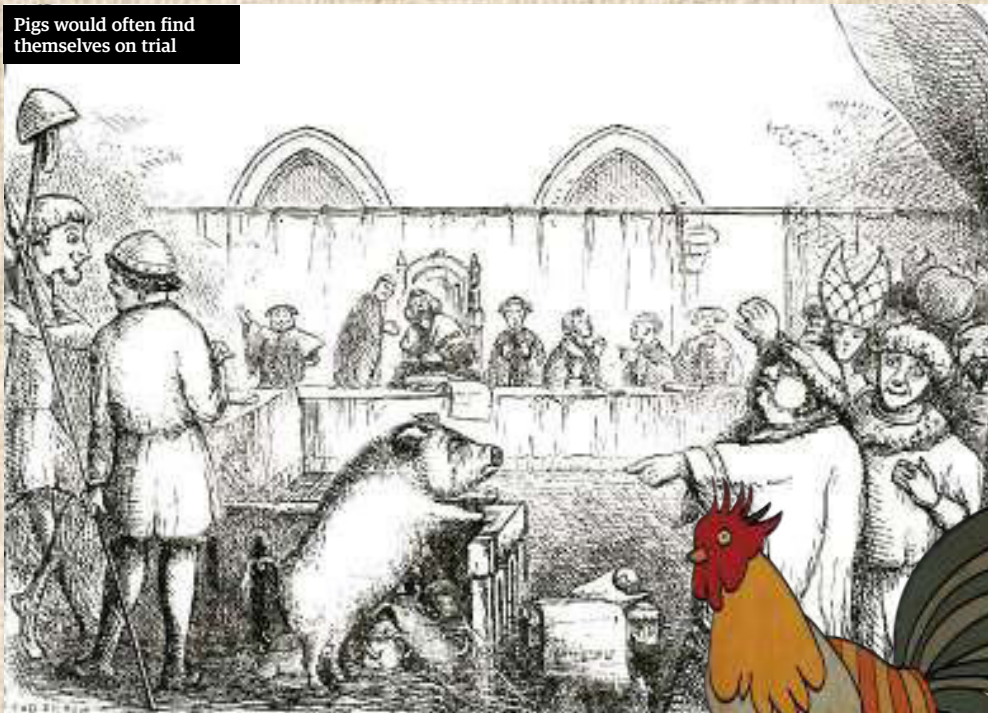


Clothes were used to indicate a man's wealth



These shoes were at the sole of medieval fashion

Pigs would often find themselves on trial



"A court found a rooster guilty of the 'unnatural crime' of laying an egg"

Animal court

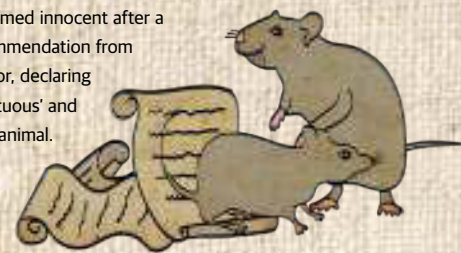
LOCATION: ALL OVER EUROPE

Life in medieval times could be tough, and this didn't just apply to humans. Just like their two-legged owners, all manner of animals from livestock to insects were put on trial if suspected of breaking the law. There are records of at least 85 animal trials that took place during the Middle Ages and the tales vary from the tragic to the absurd. By far the most serial offenders were pigs, accused and convicted of chewing off body parts and even eating children. Most were found guilty and sentenced to death by hanging or being burned at the stake. In 1386, a convicted pig was dressed in a waistcoat, gloves, drawers and a human mask for its execution.

It wasn't just pigs that felt the sting of the law, though, in

1474 a court found a rooster guilty of the 'unnatural crime' of laying an egg; unwanted rats often found themselves on the receiving end of a strongly worded letter, asking them to leave the premises; and curiously enough, there was a trial of dolphins in Marseilles in 1596. However, not all of the trials ended in brutality. One donkey, which found herself the victim of unwanted sexual advances, was proclaimed innocent after a

strong recommendation from a convent's prior, declaring her to be a 'virtuous' and 'well-behaved' animal.



It's marriage, but not as we know it

LOCATION: WESTERN EUROPE

Much of what people assume about medieval upper-class marriage is true - it was rarely for love, but rather for political and social gain, and women, as in almost all aspects of medieval life, had no say. In fact, men and women were judged as 'ready' for marriage as soon as their bodies reached puberty, as young as 12 for girls and 14 for boys.

However the marriage ceremony as we know it today was very different. For a start there wasn't a formal ceremony

until much later and couples didn't need permission to marry. They could do it in a matter of moments by uttering consent, which led to marriages in the street, down the pub or even in bed. This meant it became rather hard to prove people were actually married, so in the 12th century it was declared a holy sacrament that must be observed by God.

It wasn't just the marriage that was being observed. The consummation, especially among upper-class newlyweds, was

far from private. It wasn't unusual for the bride to be carried to the bed by her family. The 'act of bedding' was not regarded as an intimate moment, but rather an act of investment in the union, and one that warranted being observed by witnesses. Some couples had their blushes spared by the luxury of a bed curtain, but this was not the case for everyone, and the observers would instead wait around the room for the act to be 'completed'.



"The 'act of bedding' was not regarded as an intimate moment"

A medieval wedding night wasn't exactly a private affair



Love was a complicated and risky thing at court

Courtly love

LOCATION: FRANCE

As mentioned, most upper-class medieval marriages were often loveless husks designed purely for financial and social gains. Therefore, in order to not throw themselves into the nearest bog, medieval nobles fulfilled their romantic desires in 'courtly love.' Undertaken, not surprisingly, by members of the courts, courtly love allowed lords and ladies to practise the elements of love regardless of their marital status. This involved the risqué actions of dancing, giggling and even holding hands. Sex, however, was strictly forbidden, and reserved for one's spouse only. Courtly love was so popular, a list of rules was written up including: "Marriage is no real excuse for not loving."



Solving marriage disputes

LOCATION: GERMANY

Couples in medieval Germany didn't waste time when it came to solving their disputes. Rather than just arguing like any normal couple, they took to the ring. Trial by single combat was a popular way to solve disagreements, and when man and wife were fighting there were bizarre restrictions, for example the husband must stand in a hole with a hand behind his back, while his wife ran around with a sack filled with rocks.

The precursor for marriage counselling



Medieval maladies

Falling ill in the Middle Ages entered you into a very dangerous game of chance

It's safe to say that the Middle Ages weren't the best time to fall ill. It can best be described as an 'experimental' time for medicine, where everything from demons to bad smells were blamed for illness. Some of the remedies used to cure maladies were equally as bizarre, including the patient whipping themselves, burning their teeth with a candle for toothache and, of course, a good old-fashioned hazardous pilgrimage. However, whether by sheer luck or actual medical knowledge, some of the unusual remedies actually worked and are, to an extent, still used today.

An example of this is bloodletting, where blood was drawn from a vein by nicking it with a blade, or in certain situations, leeches were applied. Trepanation probably sounds the most brutal of all medieval remedies, as it involved cutting a hole directly into the human skull to release 'evil spirits', however trepanning is still used as treatment today but is known as a craniotomy.

But it isn't just the procedures that have now been deemed as suitable. It has also been discovered that many bizarre medieval herbal concoctions were actually successful such as using onion, which has antibiotic properties, to treat a sty, and bizarrely, snail slime on a burn. This is still utilised today under the innocuous name of 'Snail Gel.'

A beautiful death

LOCATION: WESTERN EUROPE

People in the medieval times were very preoccupied with death, which is understandable if you consider how pious society was at the time and also the fact that many people were falling victim to the Black Death. As a result, a trend known as 'ars moriendi' or 'The art of dying' came into fashion. The idea revolved around dying a good Christian death. This 'good' death should be planned, peaceful. Just to add further stress when you're about to pop your clogs, the dying person should, like Christ, accept their fate without despair, disbelief, impatience, pride or avarice. Dying well was particularly popular with the priesthood, which led to many of the infamous medieval paintings of monks and holy men accepting their brutal murders with calm serenity.



The aim was serenity in death



In order to solve dental woes, people would have to visit the barber, who doubled up as a dentist



No injury time in medieval football



Football

LOCATION: ENGLAND

If you thought football hooligans were a modern phenomenon, think again – medieval England had football-related mob violence before it was even called football. What we regard today as 'football' was violent, chaotic and even deadly. It involved an infinite number of players, could take part across entire villages and often it wasn't the ball being kicked, but the opposing team.

One rule book for 'Shrovetime football' lists that any means could be used to score, save actual murder. In 1314 Edward II decided enough was enough and forbid the game, decreeing, "on pain of imprisonment, such games to be used in the city in future." Clearly he was more of a golf fan.

Jesus the unicorn

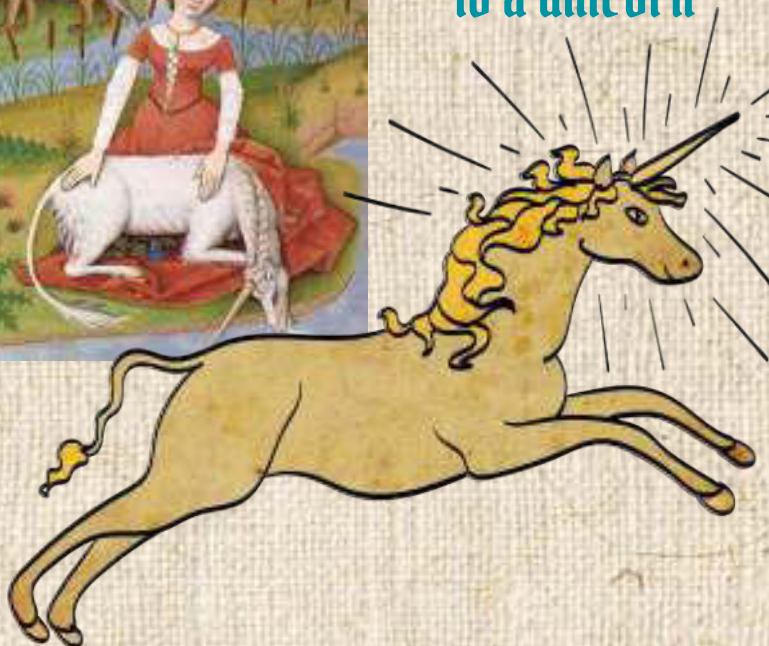
LOCATION: EUROPE

If medieval people loved two things it was mythology and religion, and these two often combined in a very peculiar way. Due to a mistranslation of what was likely intended to be an ox, it was commonly believed that in the Bible Jesus was likened to a unicorn. Medieval folk ran with this idea and the unicorn, or whatever they believed to be a unicorn, repeatedly cropped up in religious medieval art. As only innocent maidens were allowed to touch unicorns, the unicorn was also used as a strangely uncomfortable allegory of Christ entering his mother's womb.

Jesus as a unicorn:
what's not to love?



"It was commonly believed that Jesus was likened to a unicorn"



Beaver tails were considered seafood and so could be eaten on fast days

The helmeted cock

LOCATION: EUROPE

If you were a poor person in the Middle Ages, food, for the most part, was dull, boring and repetitive. However, for the rich, nothing was off limits. They enjoyed dining on swans and, to keep them going through lent, beaver tail. However, they were munching their way through so many animals they were forced to create new and more-bizarre ones. A favourite of the table was the helmeted cock – prepared by stitching a capon so it seemed to be riding atop a pig.



The Feast of Fools

LOCATION: FRANCE ORIGINALLY, BUT LATER ALL OF EUROPE

Starting the year as they meant to go on, many people of medieval Europe joined together at the beginning of January to celebrate the Feast of Fools. This eclectic event, like most Christian festivals, was inspired by a pagan festival – Saturnalia – and turned the status quo on its head. The highest respected officials swapped with the lowest, serving maids became masters and a king of misrule was crowned.

Although originally intended to be confined only to the hallowed halls of churches, the common people took it upon themselves to celebrate. There were parades, comic performances, costumes, cross-dressing, bawdy songs and, of course, drinking to excess. Not entirely related but equally as difficult to comprehend, was the Festival of the Ass, where a young girl carrying a child would ride a donkey into church, and throughout the service the congregation replaced 'amen' with a 'hee-haw.'

Considering the celebration was held in super-strict Christian medieval Europe, it's impressive it survived for so long. However, over time the rules were tightened, certain acts forbidden and the final nail in the coffin of fun came with the Protestant reformation, which condemned all the enjoyable excesses.



"Throughout the service the congregation replaced 'amen' with a sombre 'hee-haw'"



The freedom of jesting

LOCATION: WESTERN EUROPE

Being a jester in the Middle Ages may seem a terrible fate, after all their hats were modelled on the ears of an ass, however jesters were granted unique privileges. As everything that came out of their mouths was by royal decree, to be taken in 'jest', they could get away with slandering the lords and ladies of court, and voice their political opinions in a time when doing so was strictly forbidden. Being funny pays, even in the medieval court.



Jesters enjoyed freedom of speech

Bluffer's Guide CAMBODIA, 1975-79

The Khmer Rouge Regime



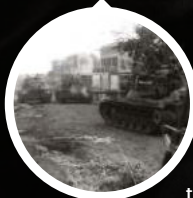
Timeline

1951



Pol Pot joins a secret Marxist cell, while studying radio electronics in Paris. After failing all his exams, he returns to Cambodia.

MARCH 1970



Prince Sihanouk is removed as head of state for his pro-Vietnamese policies. The Khmer Rouge request military support from Vietnam, triggering civil war.

17 APRIL 1975



The Khmer Rouge capture Cambodia's capital, Phnom Penh. Many of those fighting mistakenly believe the Khmer Rouge will reinstate Prince Sihanouk.

1976



The Khmer Rouge bans commercial fishing. Eighty per cent of Cambodians depend on fish for protein so starvation and malnutrition rates soar.

Bluffer's Guide

THE KHMER ROUGE REGIME



What was it?

The Khmer Rouge began as the paramilitary wing of the Communist Party of Kampuchea in Cambodia in the 1960s but rose to power during the five-year civil war triggered by a right-wing coup in 1970. Once the Khmer Rouge had successfully taken control of the country, their leader, Pol Pot, immediately began implementing his vision of a society consisting entirely of self-sufficient peasant farmers. Cities were cleared and the inhabitants sent to farms where they were forced to work for 12 hours a day without taking a break.

The Khmer Rouge demanded that farms triple their agricultural output, despite being run by former city-dwellers who had absolutely no farming experience. Families were split up so that children would be free from the corrupting ideas of their parents. Money, private property and religion were all abolished. Education was banned, and being able to speak a foreign language or even just wearing glasses were seen as criminally subversive.

It is estimated that 1 million people were executed and another million either starved to death or died of exhaustion in the labour camps.



What were the consequences?

The Khmer Rouge were removed from power in 1979 after Vietnam invaded the country. But they didn't disappear completely. They retreated to the west of Cambodia and retained control of the mountainous region along the border with Thailand. Under the name 'Democratic Kampuchea', the Khmer Rouge kept a seat at the United Nations until 1993 because of political disagreements over legitimising the Vietnamese invasion. Pol Pot was deposed by his own followers and died under house arrest in a tiny jungle village in 1998.

By 1999, almost all the leadership had surrendered or been captured and the Khmer Rouge ceased to exist. In 2014, Nuon Chea, Pol Pot's deputy, and Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge head of state, both in their eighties, were found guilty of crimes against humanity by a UN court and given life sentences. The charges against less senior leaders and camp commanders have so far all been dismissed.



Who was involved?

Pol Pot

19 May 1925 – 15 April 1998

Leader of the Khmer Rouge. Despite being fond of French literature, he brutally suppressed all education in Cambodia.



Nuon Chea

7 July 1926 – present

Known as 'Brother Number Two'. He negotiated the 1970 Vietnamese invasion that triggered the Cambodian civil war.



Ieng Sary

24 October 1925 – 14 March 2013

Foreign minister and deputy prime minister of the Khmer Rouge. He died in prison while awaiting trial for war crimes.



Did you know?

In international law, Cambodia's mass killings aren't classed as genocide, because they didn't target ethnic groups.

18 APRIL 1978

Pol Pot orders an invasion of Vietnam and his troops massacre 3,157 civilians in the border town of Ba Chúc, before being repelled by Vietnamese forces.

25 DECEMBER 1978



Vietnam finally loses patience with Cambodia over the border raids and counterattacks. Phnom Penh is captured two weeks later and the Khmer Rouge flee.

Time Traveller's Handbook

PENINSULAR

WAR

Iberian Peninsular, 1807-14

led by its brilliant and daring Emperor, Napoleon, France has forged its way through Europe, crushing foe after foe. Austria, Prussia and Russia have been all but destroyed through Napoleon's victories in countless battles. Only one country has managed to withstand France's power: Britain. Victory at Trafalgar has driven the French and Spanish invasion of the country back.

However, Britain will not be standing alone for very long. Bolstered by his success, Napoleon has usurped the Spanish throne for his own brother, and prompted an uprising in Spain. Seeing a chance of a new ally, Britain has sent its own force to the Iberian Peninsula, determined to team up with an old enemy in order to stop the conquering of an even older one for good.



FIG.01

WHERE TO STAY

Initially, Portugal was invaded and occupied by the French-Spanish coalition, and conditions there were harsh and dangerous. As Portugal is Britain's oldest ally, this angered the nation, and in late 1808, Britain drove back the French. From then on it has become a relatively safe base from which to launch campaigns against the emperor's forces, while also providing supplies to the Spanish. Wellesley is aware of how important Portugal is, defending it with scorched earth and impregnable fort defences known as the Lines of Torres Vedras. Closely guarded and defended, it's by far the safest play to stay in the midst of this bloody war.

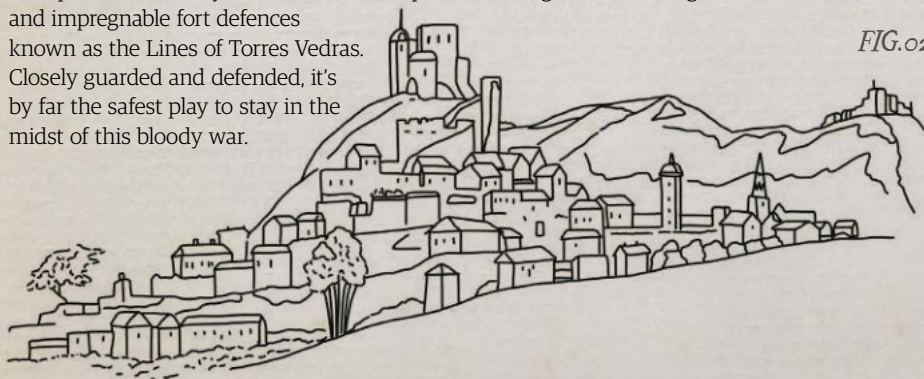


FIG.02

Dos & don'ts

☒ **Ration your food.** Supplies are vital to war in this barren landscape, and lack of food could destroy an army before it even faces an enemy.

☒ **Pick up a pen.** This is one of the first wars where soldiers are able to correspond with their families on a wide scale. Some soldiers' letters have even been published in newspapers.

☒ **Get used to sleeping out in the open.** The common infantry soldier only has a blanket or greatcoat for warmth; the luxury of a tent is reserved for officers.

☒ **Be wary of guerrillas.** Although guerrillas are technically allies, they are also known for looting their own countrymen, so be on guard.

☐ **Expect memorials for the dead or victory parades.** Soldiers who survive the war will return to a minuscule pension and little care for the wounded.

☐ **Believe the rumours that the French are invincible.** This will turn out to be the first major conflict that proves that rumour to be wrong.

☐ **Forget to check the spoils of the battlefield.** After being defeated at Vitoria, Joseph fled so quickly that he left all his personal effects, 12 miles of carriages, and even his chamber pot.

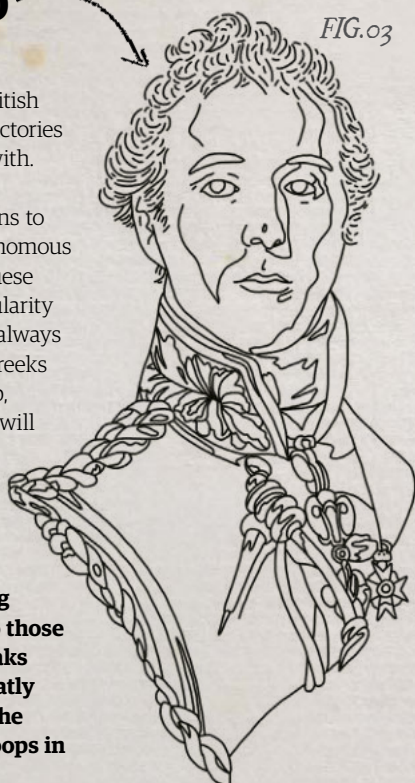
☐ **Take the easy route.** Wellesley uses rivers, secret fords and even traversed mountains to gain the upper hand on his unsuspecting foes.

WHO TO BEFRIEND

Arthur Wellesley

Soon to be better known as the Duke of Wellington, this young, up-and-coming, British commander has already led the army to victories in the field, and is a force to be reckoned with. Pioneering and extremely intelligent, the commander has brought several innovations to his infantry including dividing it into autonomous divisions, and adding battalions of Portuguese infantry. Steadily gaining respect and popularity due to his dashing good looks, in war it is always wise to befriend a winner - and Wellesley reeks of victory. Be warned, he is famously sharp, disciplined and stern; winning his respect will take time, patience and perseverance.

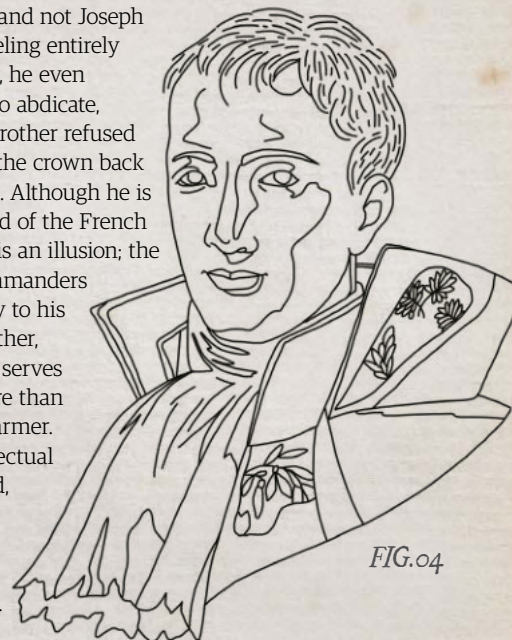
Extra tip: A huge advantage when befriendng Wellesley is being upper class or highly ranked. There are many anecdotes of the commander displaying somewhat condescending behaviour to those less competent, and he very rarely speaks to servants. However, he also cares greatly for his men, sobbing upon witnessing the British dead, and refusing to put his troops in unnecessary danger.



WHO TO AVOID

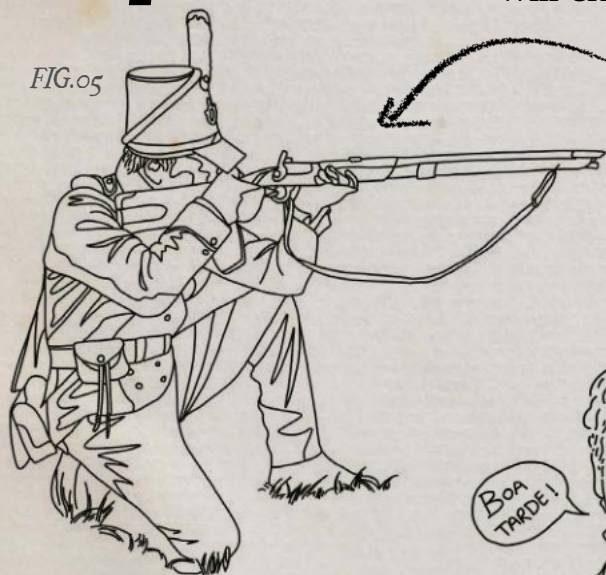
Joseph Bonaparte

Although his surname may summon impressive images, Joseph himself is far weaker and milder than his younger brother, Napoleon. Nobody wanted Joseph to be king of Spain, not the Catholic Spanish population and not Joseph himself. Feeling entirely unwelcome, he even attempted to abdicate, which his brother refused and forced the crown back on his head. Although he is in command of the French forces, this is an illusion; the French commanders answer only to his famous brother, and Joseph serves as little more than a throne warmer. Weak, ineffectual and disliked, befriendng the 'king' will do you few favours.



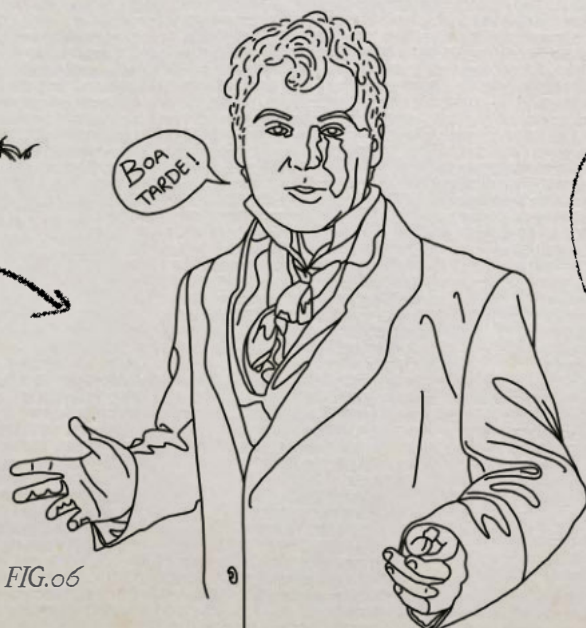
Helpful skills

In a transforming country, these skills will ensure you keep up with the times



Combat

There are no two ways about it: when you're in a war, being able to handle a weapon well will benefit you. Soldiers are equipped with various weapons including swords, bayonets and difficult-to-aim muskets.



Languages

Britain is no longer a force that works alone; this war is all about allegiance and cooperation. You'll be living and fighting alongside Spanish and Portuguese, so being able to communicate clearly will aid your survival massively.



Publicity

With so many big personalities involved, the public are enthralled by the Napoleonic wars; it's where heroes and villains are made. If you are able to control how your own actions are portrayed, history may treat you just as nicely as its hero, Wellesley.

In pictures

THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY

Responsible for the deaths of 1,700 people during the Northern Ireland conflict, the shadow of the IRA still looms large over Northern Irish society

The 1920 Government of Ireland Act provided for the partitioning of Ireland and the creation of two states: an independent southern state and a northern state that would remain a member of the United Kingdom. Ever since, Irish nationalists and republicans have sought the reunification of the island. Notable campaigns by the Irish Republican Army during World War II and during the late 1950s saw little success, but the emerging Northern Ireland civil rights campaign of the late 1960s drew violent counter demonstrations. The deployment of the British Army to the streets of Northern Ireland in August 1969

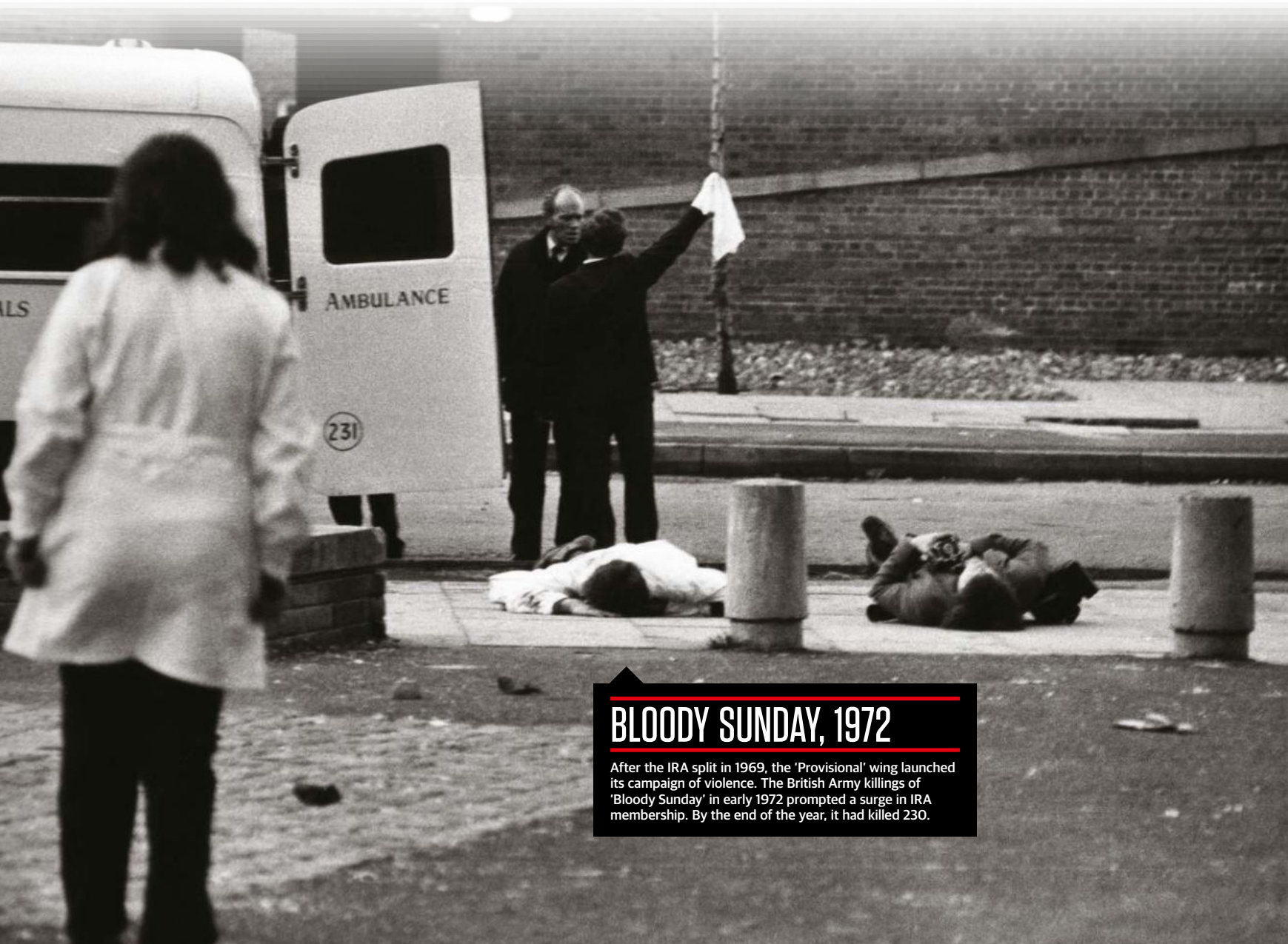
was initially a calming influence but quickly led to further radicalisation.

The deadliest group in what became known as the Northern Ireland conflict was the Irish Republican Army, which killed more than 1,700 people before its lasting ceasefire of 1997 and the decommissioning of its weaponry eight years later. A decade after the ceasefire, Sinn Féin, its political wing, went into a power-sharing government with the hard-line Ulster unionist party, the Democratic Unionist Party. Today, former IRA members sit in the devolved Assembly at Stormont Castle in Belfast as part of the Sinn Féin delegation.

ANDREW SANDERS



Assistant professor of Political Science at Texas A&M University-San Antonio, and the author of *Inside the IRA: Dissident Republicans and the War for Legitimacy*, and *The Long Peace Process: The United States of America and Northern Ireland, 1960-2000*, and the co-author of *Times of Troubles: Britain's War in Northern Ireland*.



BLOODY SUNDAY, 1972

After the IRA split in 1969, the 'Provisional' wing launched its campaign of violence. The British Army killings of 'Bloody Sunday' in early 1972 prompted a surge in IRA membership. By the end of the year, it had killed 230.

BLOODY FRIDAY, 1972

One of the most notorious incidents of 1972 was the mass IRA bombing of central Belfast that became known as 'Bloody Friday'. Nine people died as 22 bombs exploded in just over an hour.



THE 1981 HUNGER STRIKE

British policy in Northern Ireland changed in 1976 when paramilitary prisoners lost their special category status. The protest that ensued ended with the deaths of ten men, led by IRA volunteer Bobby Sands, on hunger strike in 1981.





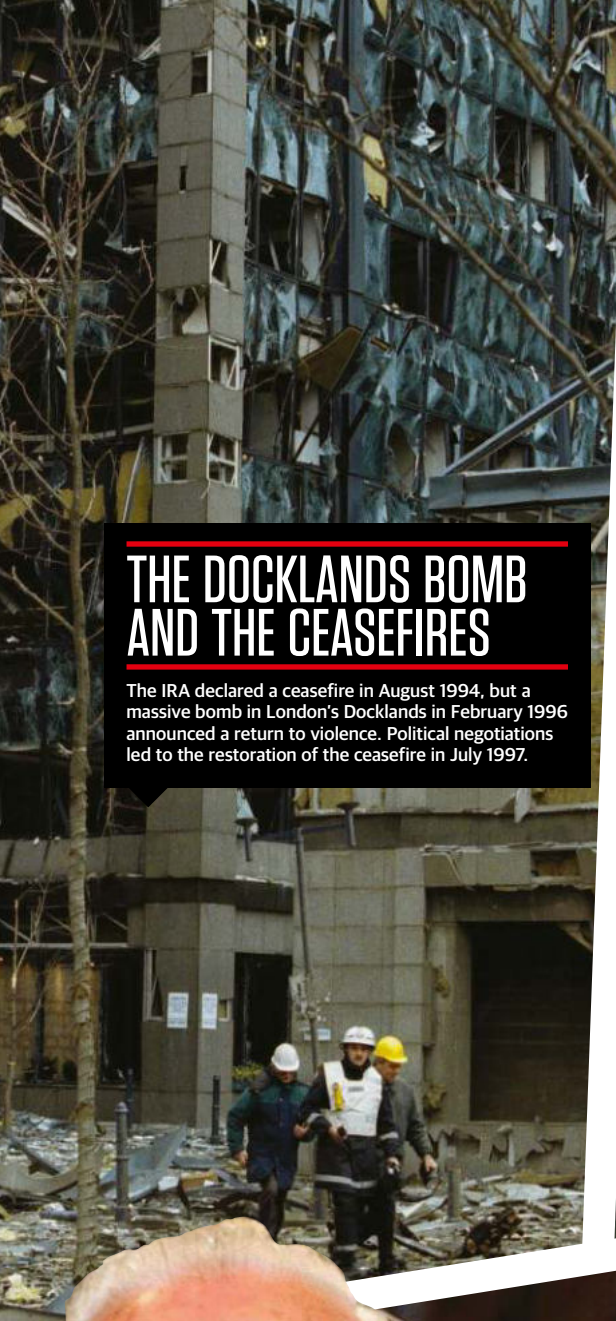
THE BRIGHTON BOMBING

In October 1984, the IRA bombed the Conservative Party conference in an attempt to kill prime minister Margaret Thatcher. Five died and dozens were injured, but Thatcher escaped injury. The IRA warned her "we only have to be lucky once."



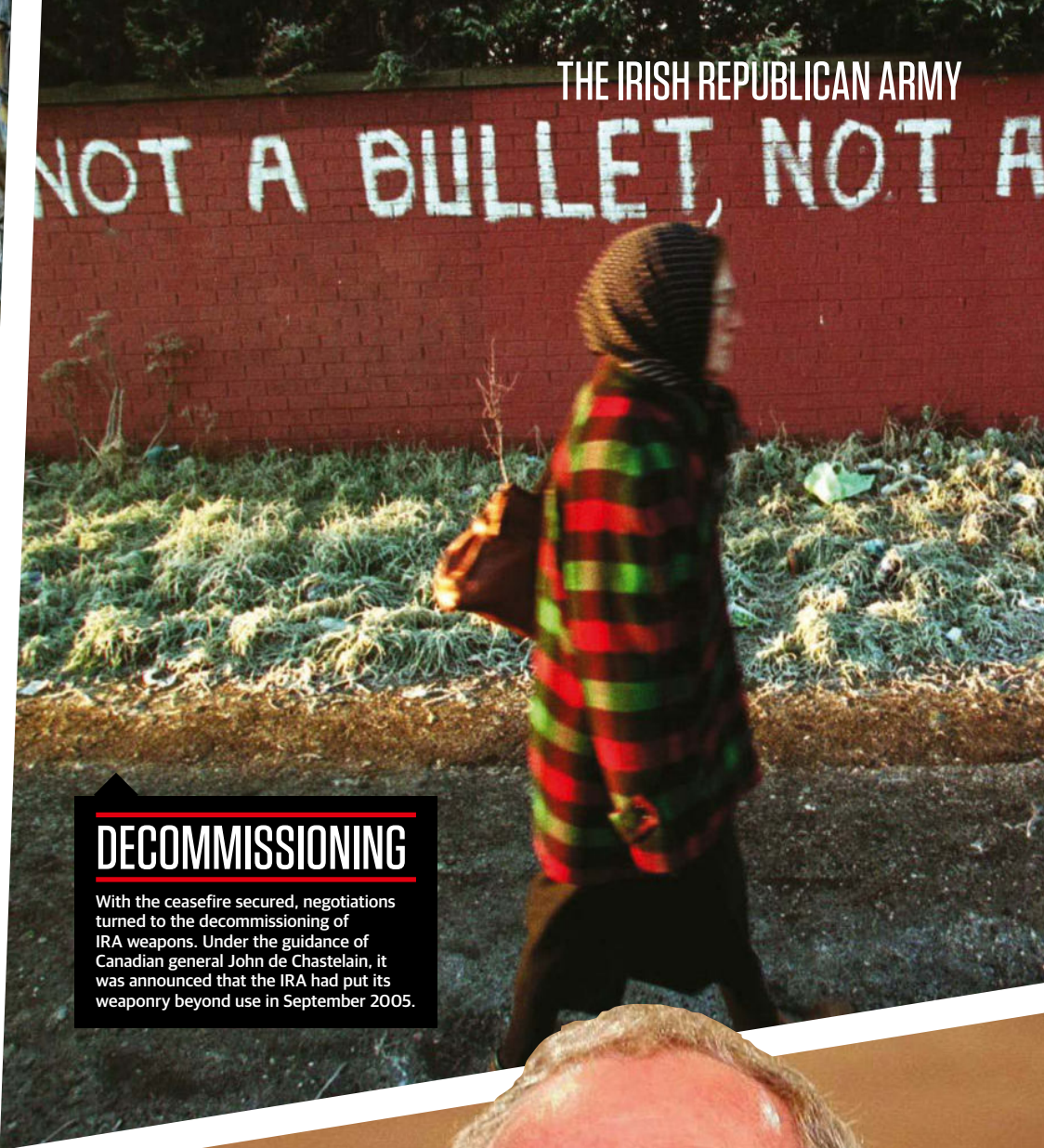
DEATH ON THE ROCK AND IN BELFAST

The IRA plot to bomb the changing of the guard in Gibraltar in March 1988 backfired as three volunteers were gunned down by the SAS. The subsequent funeral saw further chaos as a loyalist gunman attacked the ceremony, killing three.



THE DOCKLANDS BOMB AND THE CEASEFIRES

The IRA declared a ceasefire in August 1994, but a massive bomb in London's Docklands in February 1996 announced a return to violence. Political negotiations led to the restoration of the ceasefire in July 1997.



THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY

NOT A BULLET, NOT A

DECOMMISSIONING

With the ceasefire secured, negotiations turned to the decommissioning of IRA weapons. Under the guidance of Canadian general John de Chastelain, it was announced that the IRA had put its weaponry beyond use in September 2005.



FROM GUNS TO GOVERNMENT

In 2007, former IRA commander Martin McGuinness, now the northern leader of Sinn Féin, became the deputy first minister of Northern Ireland, where he shared power with first minister reverend Ian Paisley of the Democratic Unionist Party.



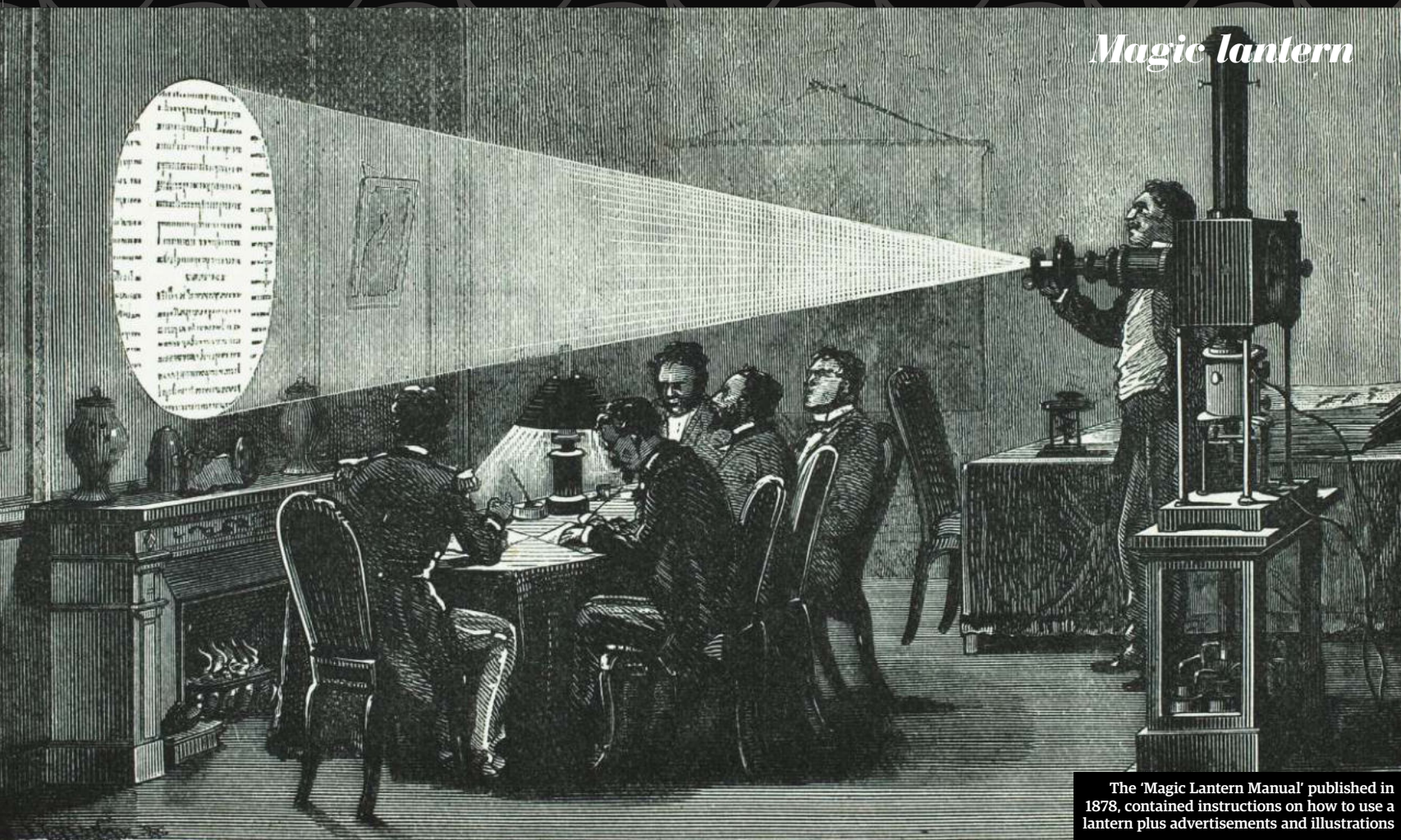
The Magic Lantern

How a humble box transformed light into a
powerful media tool for the masses

Written by David J Williamson



The image projector that
revolutionised entertainment
in the 19th century



The 'Magic Lantern Manual' published in 1878, contained instructions on how to use a lantern plus advertisements and illustrations

The origins of the optical or 'magic' lantern could not be simpler. Since the 5th century BCE in China, it had been known that projecting light through a small hole in a wall onto the opposite wall of a dark room could replicate the scene outside, due to light travelling in straight lines. What became known as the camera obscura was to develop into both a scientific instrument (for safely observing a solar eclipse) and an essential tool for many famous artists, including Leonardo da Vinci. Major advances in lens technology during the 17th century improved the images projected, and from here it was a short step to introducing a light source (initially candle or oil lamp) shining through a glass slide to project an image completely independent of the outside world. The magic lantern was born.

During the 18th century, the shows were very much a novelty; individual travelling lantern men and women would roam the countryside around Europe from village to village, town to town, the lantern strapped to their backs, scraping a humble living from their performances. Often a musician, such as a hurdy-gurdy player, accompanied them; sometimes they themselves provided musical accompaniment, thereby creating what we today would know as a multimedia experience.

By the end of the 18th century there had been a seismic shift in what people did, where they worked and where they lived. The need to roam the countryside became less, and now the population was swarming together into towns and cities, creating a ready-made audience for the shows, all eager to be amazed. The 19th century world seemed full of possibilities, and magic-lantern

shows were to prove a prime instrument for those wanting to educate, lecture, chastise, convert, persuade and entertain.

Whether a fishing village in Cornwall, the South Pacific Islands, or an African tribal village, the exploration and recording of an expanding world of Empire was at the heart of the Victorian dream. Now it could be shared with a much wider audience, hungry for a glimpse of the world that lay beyond the end of their street. Photographic slides produced a realism never before seen, and for the uneducated it was a window to the world.

For those fortunate enough to have an education, lessons became far more interesting, with schools buying up whole collections of lantern slides on a variety of subjects from science to geography, history to anatomy. The use of the lantern to inform and instruct moved away from its entertainment roots, but demonstrated just how adaptable it was as a tool, and how easily it supported the thirst for knowledge that underpinned the 19th century psyche.

Looking back from our technological age, it is perhaps difficult for us to understand the sheer

delight and awe of someone - especially a child - seeing a magic-lantern show for the very first time. True to its roots, the prime focus had been first and foremost to entertain. The darkened room and the larger-than-life image on the screen was a unique experience to be shared, and the technical trickery employed by the lanternist was designed specifically to thrill and amaze.

Starting from the single, glass slide pushed across the lens, new techniques were soon developed. This often involved the ability to mechanically blank out a section of the slide before revealing a new section, using a short lever built in to the slide, giving the impression of movement. By doing so, a ship could be seen tossed on a rolling sea or, the most popular slide of all time, a man is seen to be swallowing rats in his sleep!

But changes to the lantern itself could create even more 'magical' effects. Instead of a single lens, lanterns began to have two or even three. Multiple slides could then overlay one another so that scenes could progress from one to the other using dissolves and fades, techniques to be later used in film production. People and objects would appear

BEER
Supplies no **FORCE**, but wastes
the Stored-up **ENERGY** of the Body.

The Average Daily Diet for an Adult
Man should contain Stored-up Force equal
to raising 3,940 Tons one foot high. This
force would be contained in the following Foods,
costing Sevenpence:

Bread - 18oz.	Bacon - 2oz.	Cheese - 3oz.
Butter - 1oz.	Potatoes - 8oz.	Sugar - 1oz.
Milk - 4oz.	Cabbage - 6oz.	Salt - 0oz.

If the Nutritive Material contained in Beer could
be used up in the Body as Food, a Healthy
Man would need to drink 180 pints a
day, costing Twenty-five Shillings,
to maintain his Body in

**A magic lantern
temperance slide from
the Victorian period**

**"Photographic slides produced
a realism never before seen"**

Magic lantern

and disappear; snow would fall; or a building would catch fire, all adding to the drama and excitement of the show.

With the social changes that swept through the 19th century came the potential for squalor, misery and suffering. The harshness of industrial life often found solace in drink, gambling, violence and crime. Many institutions and societies sprang up during the Victorian era that would attempt to combat such low moral standards of behaviour. The Band of Hope and the Church of England Temperance Society were just two such groups that turned lantern shows to their advantage, making direct links between alcohol, poverty and domestic violence.

The Temperance lantern shows were a regular entertainment in church and village halls around the country and all over the world. And they were uncompromising in their message. In true

Victorian, melodramatic tradition, the slides - produced by Bamforth and others - would tell a tale of temptation and drunkenness that led to ruin. In one popular slide narrative, *The Gin Fiend*, a drunken husband torments his wife who, after she contemplates suicide, is eventually killed by him in a fit of drunken rage. He is so full of remorse he ends his days in a mental asylum.

As for the church as a whole, just as the imagery within stained-glass windows held a message for all to follow God's word, so too the magic-lantern shows were adopted as a tool for spreading the church's message, only in a far more personal and visually dramatic way. People could now view the latest missionary work in the far-flung and un-Christian parts of the world, the most recent dramatic episode slides on the evils of sin, or the words of the latest popular hymn or religious poem. Lantern slides added another dimension



The Temperance lantern shows were a regular entertainment in church and village halls

"Lantern shows were a regular entertainment in church"

The magic uncovered

Light, mirror and lens: a simple but powerful combination

Outer case or box

This was originally very plain and functional but became more sophisticated and elaborate as the 19th century progressed. As larger, more static performances became the norm, heavier materials could be used, such as decorative wood and ornate decoration in brass and other metals.

Concave mirror

Specifically shaped to capture, concentrate and reflect as much available light as possible. The quality of the mirror had a direct impact on the quality of the projected image, giving the slides every opportunity to be seen at their best.

Light source

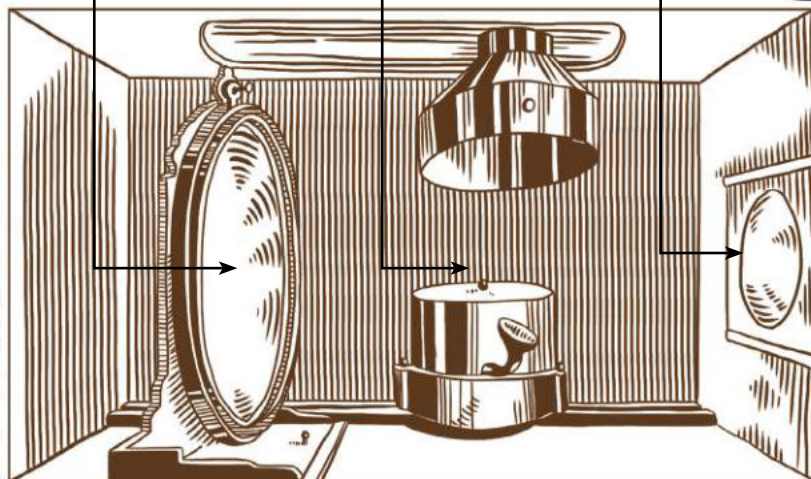
Originally, candlelight or oil lamps were used, and produced a fairly dim light. The invention of limelight in the 1820s improved this considerably, but as a mixture of hydrogen and oxygen it was dangerous. Electric light, although not brighter, was much safer.

Lens

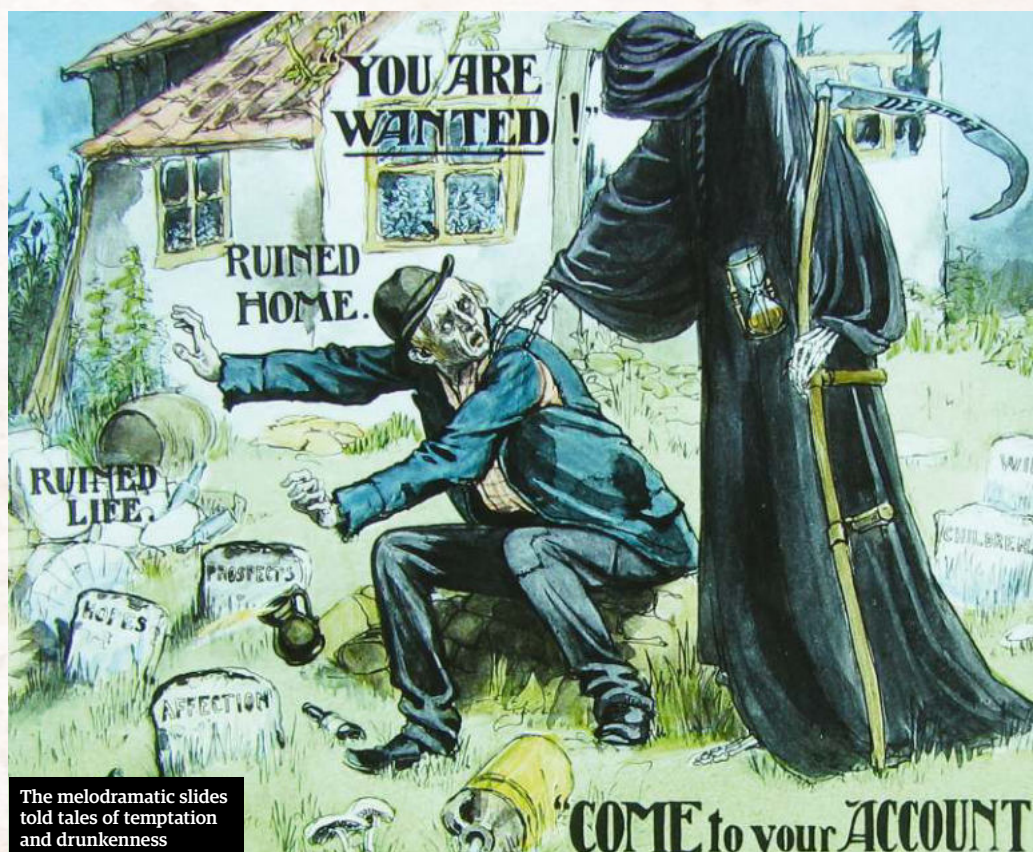
Developed through the 17th and 18th centuries, the quality of lens became such that images were much sharper. Adjusted manually forwards and backwards to focus, many later lanterns used two or even three lenses for use of multiple slide effects.

Glass slide

These would vary, from single or strips of static slides being pushed across the lens, to intricate mechanical slides that could mimic movement. Hand painting or tinting processes added deep, vivid colours, and the onset of photography gave a new realism.



Magic lantern



The melodramatic slides told tales of temptation and drunkenness

for a congregation, creating a blend of melodrama with moral message and giving the lantern shows their unique appeal to an audience at that time; the ability to entertain as well as instruct and guide.

As a piece of mass media the magic lantern shows had become an advertiser's dream. Newspaper and magazine advertising was well established, but where they were at a disadvantage was in the ability to cheaply and frequently reproduce photographic imagery to support their stories. And the same applied to advertisers.

In an industry where a picture could tell a thousand words, lanternists became inundated with offers of free slides from companies wishing to get as much exposure for their products as they could through the phenomenon of the magic lantern show. Products were offered to a captive audience that was eager to be entertained and, just like the Church and Temperance groups, happy to be exposed to a not-so-subtle message.

In a format that was to be copied by both cinema and later on television, commercial breaks in the lantern show were introduced. Major companies such as Pear's Soap, Fry's Chocolate and Bird's



This lantern had three lenses that could create special effects

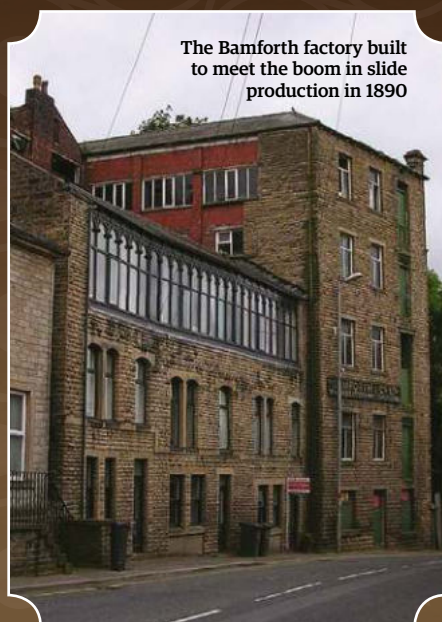


An industry is born

Meeting the demands of a public hungry for more

Yorkshireman James Bamforth completely embodied the surge in commercial value of the magic lantern in the late 19th century. Originally a photographer, he was certainly a man to spot an opportunity, and used his ready-made studio in the Yorkshire village of Holmfirth to create and produce photographic lantern slides on an ever-increasing scale. Using live models, who were quite often his family members, friends and local villagers, Bamforth began to specialise in narrative tales that told a story, quite often with a religious or temperance theme, that were to become the soap operas of their day, creating demand for more and more episodes. This would develop into slide sequences to accompany well-known hymns or poems that had a particular theme or message.

In 1885 Bamforth produced *Christmas In Paradise*, which was based on the ballad *Christmas Day In The Workhouse*, and it turned out to be the most popular magic lantern story of all time. Bamforth certainly came to know his market well, and made sure that he responded to demand. By 1890 this was such that his factory facilities had to expand in order to accommodate the rise in production. And where he had led, inevitably others soon followed. Towards the end of the 19th century there were at least 20 major slide manufacturers in London alone, and the sheer breadth of subject matter and variety of the lantern shows meant that even large companies like Bamforth's had to work very hard indeed to meet the demand of what had truly become a new mass media, accessible to everyone.



The Bamforth factory built to meet the boom in slide production in 1890

MARCY'S OIL AND GAS SCIOPTICONS
 With New Improved and Carefully Selected
MAGIC LANTERN SLIDES,
 L. J. MARCY, 1340 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.
 For convenience and efficiency, for private or for public use, they stand
UNRIVALLED.
 Circulars free. Catalogues, 10 cents.
 Sciopticon Manual, 6th Ed., 75 cents.
 Specimen Scientific Slide, 25 cents.

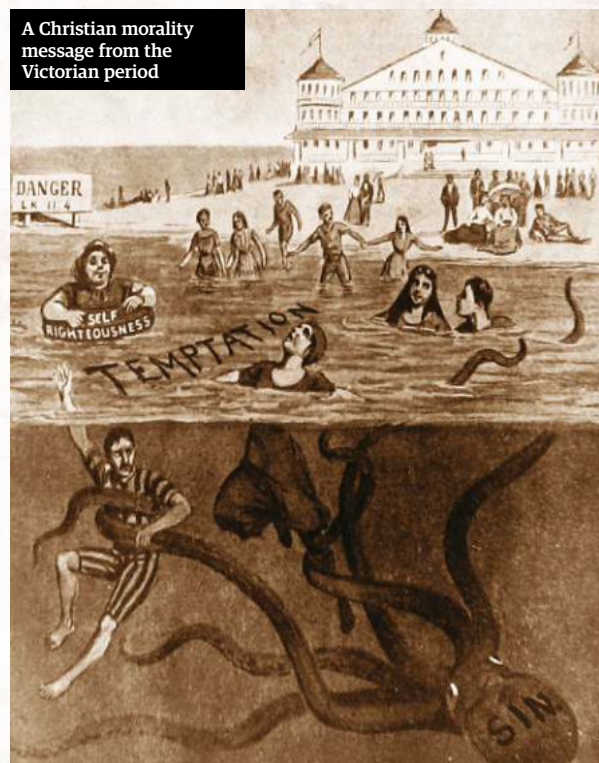
A slide projector advert from 1878 in an American newspaper



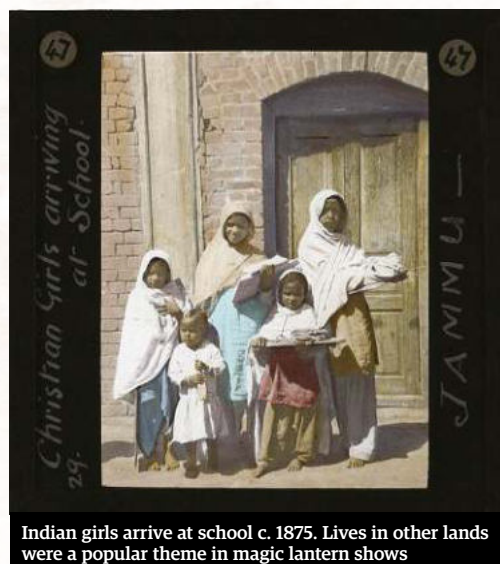
This popular slide shows rodents jumping into a sleeping man's mouth



An organ grinder carrying a lantern on her back creates a multimedia show



A Christian morality message from the Victorian period



Indian girls arrive at school c. 1875. Lives in other lands were a popular theme in magic lantern shows

A magic lantern show given for 1,450 poor children at the Fulham Liberal Club, c.1889



Custard all benefitted from this but, with slides relatively cheap and easy to produce, small, local companies and products could also get their name up on the screen. One innovation originating in the US was the production of illustrated slides for the lyrics of popular songs. The audience would all sing the lyrics to a musical accompaniment. The idea was to sell the sheet music for the song, but it is estimated that the slides of one particular ballad, *The Little Lost Child*, sold two million copies in the United States alone.

In such a highly charged political era as the 19th century, the magic lantern was to prove a big asset to politics. Eager to take advantage of such a popular mass medium, it was again photography that added to the lantern show's attraction as a tool of propaganda and government. Whether events in the Crimea or the American Civil War, a lantern show could display in far more graphic detail the reality of war. Major disasters were a popular theme, as were events concerning royalty and presidents alike. Local politicians could canvas hundreds of potential voters at a time, and election results could be displayed for hundreds of people to see.

Even though the newspapers could print and present the news much faster, they still lacked the overwhelming impact of imagery that a lantern show could produce. Nor could they replicate the shared sense of pride, anger or despair that such news presentations were able to incite in their audience. Many such presentations were

"The magic lantern gave the common man greater access"

accompanied by a spoken narrative, thus opening up the world to the illiterate. This in turn became a vital element in the promotion of political parties, especially those representing the working man. Through political rallies, the magic lantern gave the common man greater access to political opinion and political choice, and as such set the tone for a relationship between mass media and politics that is prevalent today.

It is ironic that, as the forerunner of the moving image, it was this development that was to sign the death warrant of the magic lantern. But it did not die straight away. Movies brought the world to life, albeit in a jerky, mechanical way. They did create a magic all of their own, but it was magic without the magician, the lanternist as showman, instructor and guide. Movies were made to be watched. The projector was in charge, and audiences were to accept this new moving world, passively, silently. Gone was the feeling of interaction, the singing of hymns or recital of

poems. The music was still there, but the need for imagination was not. Things had moved on.

Lantern slides clung on for a while to a tiny, unique place in the world. Early cinema was expensive, and the pioneering equipment was somewhat unreliable at first. The simple technology of the lantern that had changed little in more than 200 years was to be a truly great asset. Charities and political parties with limited funds could not afford the new technology, and neither could the advertisers whose products still appeared on lantern slides in the newly formed cinemas. Children certainly still played with and were thrilled by their toy lanterns. However, the end was inevitable. Slide projectors in the home were to find a brand-new renaissance right through to the 1970s, but the greatest legacy of the magic lantern was the birth of a mass visual multimedia, bringing people together to be amazed, and to share their interests and experiences of a vast and ever-changing world.



'The Bottle' is an eight part slide show exhorting the dangers of drinking

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Joséphine de Beauharnais

Prisoner, empress, Barbie doll and wife of one of history's most infamous men, was Joséphine Bonaparte saint or sinner?

Written by Catherine Curzon

It is the curse of some women in history to be defined solely by the men in their lives and one such woman is, undoubtedly, Joséphine de Beauharnais, better known to history as Mrs Napoleon Bonaparte. Napoleon and Joséphine's romance is iconic, legendary in fact, and the two remain inextricably linked, even though their at times immensely passionate union ended in divorce. Yet Joséphine's early days were tumultuous and this former prisoner of the French revolution knew a thing or two about survival, long before she ever laid eyes on the Little Corporal.

Born Marie Joséphe Rose Tascher de La Pagerie in 1763 in Martinique, Joséphine was the daughter of a plantation owner and his wife. The couple hit hard times when hurricanes destroyed their crops and for years they battled to keep their heads above water - all efforts to rebuild the family business meeting with failure. Yet there was a small light on the horizon, for one of Joséphine's aunts just happened to be the mistress of a wealthy man. She arranged for Joséphine's 12-year-old sister, Catherine, to marry Alexandre de Beauharnais, the

heir to her lover's fortune and the viscountcy that went with it.

As it turns out, little Catherine didn't live to 13 and died before the wedding could take place. Co-opted into her sister's bridal role, Joséphine's life now changed forever.

Joséphine was 16 when she married Alexandre, and together the couple would have two children, Eugène and Hortense. Until this point, nobody had really considered the young and insignificant Joséphine would amount to much, yet when the Reign of Terror swept through France, she found her life change course inescapably. Although he had supported the revolutionary cause, Alexandre fell victim to infighting and when he failed to defend Mainz against Austrian troops, he was literally for the chop.

Alexandre went to the guillotine and for the first time in her life, Joséphine knew how it felt to be in the spotlight as an enemy of the people. She was flung into prison and there languished for three terrible months. Robespierre fell just days after her husband died on the scaffold and the supposedly



“Alexandre went to the guillotine and for the first time in her life, Joséphine knew how it felt to be in the spotlight as an enemy of the people”

***Defining
moment***

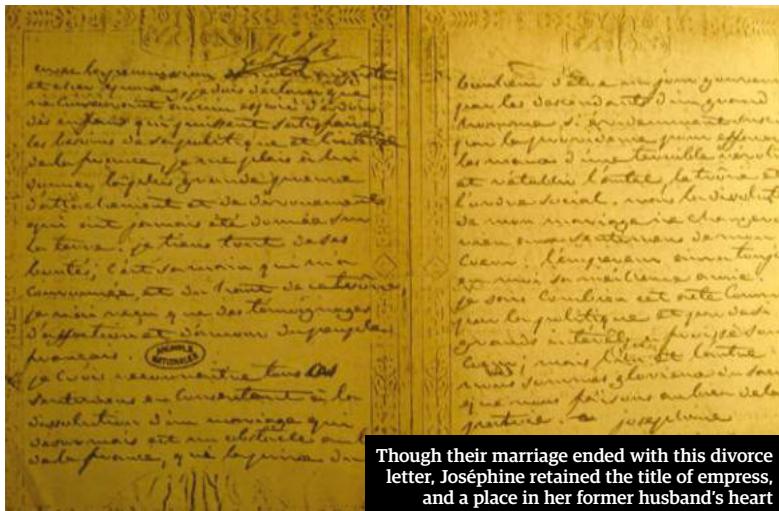
**Catherine-Désirée Tascher
de La Pagerie dies**

When tuberculosis claimed the life of Joséphine's younger sister, Catherine, before she could depart for France and her planned marriage, it changed Joséphine's life forever. A teenage Joséphine assumed her late sister's place. She left Martinique behind and embarked on the adventure that would take her to the most dazzling pinnacle of French society.

**16 October
1777**

Hero or Villain?

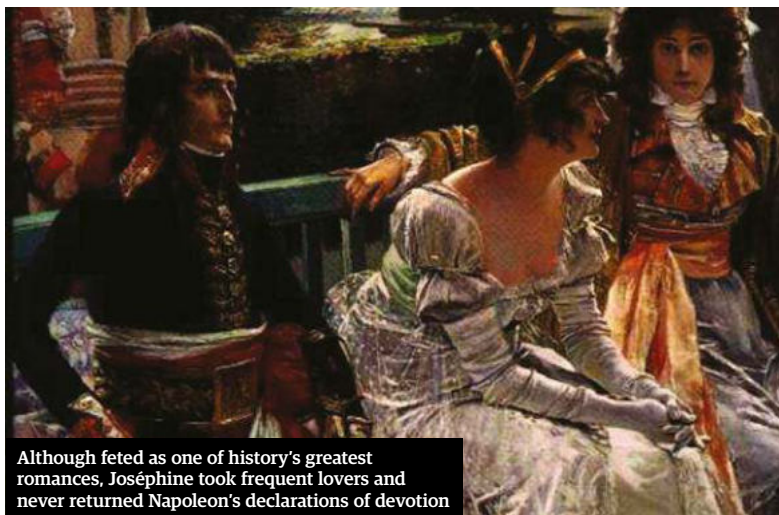
JOSÉPHINE DE BEAUHARNAIS



Though their marriage ended with this divorce letter, Joséphine retained the title of empress, and a place in her former husband's heart



Alexandre de Beauharnais died on the guillotine, leaving his young widow as a very rich prisoner!



Although feted as one of history's greatest romances, Joséphine took frequent lovers and never returned Napoleon's declarations of devotion

dangerous, aristo-loving Joséphine was released. It was a close shave.

Of course, the respective role of hero and villain during the Reign of Terror could turn on the head of a pin. Upon her release Joséphine inherited a fortune from her late husband and as France counted the cost of revolution, this former prisoner was living the high life once more. She wasn't lonely for long and would likely have lived the life of a very merry, if somewhat unremarkable, widow were it not for a chance meeting with a certain man named Napoleon.

How Joséphine and Napoleon Bonaparte met remains a matter of conjecture. The romantic, approved version is that Joséphine's son, Eugène, refused to surrender his late father's sword under a new ruling which forbade citizens from keeping weapons at home. When Napoleon learned of Eugène's devotion to his father, he gave permission

for him to keep the sword. Joséphine went to give Napoleon her thanks in person and the two, the legend goes, fell head over heels in love. Though he was already engaged to Désirée Clary, Napoleon broke off that betrothal in favour of his new-found love.

Joséphine and Napoleon enjoyed a passionate 12-month affair and in March 1796, they were married.

Although Joséphine's villainy, such as it was, was hardly on a grand scale, she was certainly regarded as the enemy by the women in her new husband's family. She was poised, schooled in the rules of the upper classes, half a dozen years older than Napoleon and already had two children, not to mention the awkward matter of her

run-in with prison more than a decade earlier. Sensing a woman hungry for influence and ambition, Joséphine's new in-laws didn't think much of her at all.

Of course, plenty of wives don't get on with their in-laws and it's hardly the mark of a villain. Napoleon was often away on campaign and, despite his loving letters and passionate pronouncements, it wasn't enough to keep the fun-seeking Joséphine faithful. Not long after their wedding, rumours reached Napoleon that his adored wife had taken a soldier for a lover. He was devastated and retaliated by taking not one, but several mistresses of his own. The love affair that had once burned so bright now began to dim.

If Joséphine was anyone's worst enemy, it was her own, and she soon found her husband's passion trying. The couple argued more than they ever had and their mutual suspicion grew deeper and more pronounced. Despite everything, however, they never truly fell out of love. Even when Napoleon and Joséphine took the unhappy decision to divorce so that he might seek a new bride who could provide him with an heir, they remained close friends and confidantes.

Napoleon did remarry, of course, but Joséphine did not. She died in 1814, just four years after the divorce was agreed.

Time, however, was not kind to Joséphine. In the years of her life and those following her death, she was painted as a scheming, ambitious woman who

Defining moment

Joséphine meets Paul Barras

Like Joséphine, Paul Barras was a born survivor. An architect of the French Revolution, he voted to execute Louis XVI yet later turned on Robespierre, cementing his own place in power. He and Joséphine were intimate friends and most likely more besides. Indeed, Barras is often credited with introducing Joséphine to Napoleon, with one eye on his own promotion, of course!

1794-1795

Defining moment

Joséphine accepts Napoleon's proposal

After spending 12 months as his mistress, Joséphine finally accepted Napoleon's marriage proposal. It was to be the first step on the road to her eventual title of empress of the French, a rank that Napoleon ensured she would hold until her death. The marriage ended in divorce in 1810, as Joséphine's tribulations in jail had rendered her infertile and Napoleon needed to produce an heir.

1796

Graceful, well-connected and rich, Joséphine aroused the suspicion of her new Bonaparte in-laws



The wily, cunning Paul Barras was Joséphine's intimate friend and was rumoured to have influenced her marriage to Napoleon



"To suggest she was a social-climbing harlot is simply untrue"

employed every feminine wile at her disposal to lure Napoleon into her bed and then to the altar. She was painted as a harlot, a woman who sought rank and privilege above all things, but was this really a fair portrayal?

In fact, it seems as though Joséphine's only claim to villainy was the fact she had the misfortune to be married to Napoleon during his most famous, some might say notorious, years. She was also the woman who stole him away from Désirée, who was later immortalised in fiction as the wronged innocent, the victim of a wicked and scheming woman. But there were two people involved in the ending of the relationship and Napoleon hardly went unwillingly to Joséphine's bed. Unfortunately, society is never generous to those who become "the other woman".

Joséphine had little interest in politics and to suggest she was a social-climbing harlot is simply untrue. In Joséphine, Napoleon gained a woman with impeccable wifely credentials. In Napoleon, Joséphine gained a husband who could keep her in the style to which she was accustomed and, on top of that, make her feel adored. Joséphine had a history of forming very strong attachments to her lovers and though they were often powerful men, she never exploited her relationships for political

ends nor took much interest in the business of government. By the time she married him, Joséphine was a widow, a mother of two, and a woman who had already lived a life of glittering highs and devastating lows. Her letters to Napoleon, though affectionate, do not scale the dizzying heights of his own letters to her and, though many of her notes are missing, the blaze of ardour between them was always far more on Napoleon's side than Joséphine's.

In truth, Joséphine was neither hero nor villain, unless we read her life as a soap opera of men and marriages, affairs and stolen fiancés. In reality, it was no different to the life of many noble women of the era, with arranged early nuptials, widowhood, and difficult second unions that didn't quite manage to end with a happily ever after. After their divorce, Napoleon continued to dreamily speak of his love for Joséphine, the woman who was still awarded the title of empress. Her name was even the last word he ever spoke, whispering it with his dying breath as he slowly faded away on Saint Helena.

Yet Joséphine should not only be viewed through the prism of the man, or men, in her life. She made it through the French Revolution, survived imprisonment during the Reign of Terror and rose

to be empress of France. She had, to put it mildly, phenomenal strength of character and though she was rarely without a man in her life, she was also a woman in control of her own affairs, often in the literal sense.

She found Napoleon's early attentions cloying and was loathe to accept his proposal, the depth of his passion worrying this somewhat cynical and slightly older lady. Yet, mindful of her own position and the security of marriage, accepted what was to be a fateful offer. Her love for him rarely, if ever, appears to have scaled the dizzying poetic heights of her husband's adoration and if anyone was told "not tonight", it was far more likely to be Boney.

Joséphine remains one of the most iconic women of her age yet she cannot be pigeonholed as a villain, nor was she a hero. She was simply a woman who lived through a tumultuous life through a tumultuous age, dodging the guillotine, assuming the throne and, eventually, becoming half of one of history's most legendary couples.

Was Joséphine a hero or a villain? Let us know what you think

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The Tiger of Mysore



Tipu Sultan was also known as Tipu Sahib, as well as the Tiger of Mysore

The Tiger of Mysore

Fearless British foe, restless moderniser and religious tyrant, discover the dramatic life and afterlife of Tipu Sultan

Written by Janaki Nair

No one in the 18th century made the hearts of the English 'lions' quake with fear as much as Tipu Sultan, known as the Tiger of Mysore. So safe and just was his reign, his court poets tell us: "the deer of the forest make their pillow of the lion and tiger, and their mattress of the leopard and panther." These words aren't just platitudes heaped on the Mysore ruler; they speak of a reign that forever changed the fortunes of the Indian subcontinent. There is no doubt that both Tipu Sultan and his father, Haider Ali, "brought the [British] East Indian Company nearer to ruin than any other Indian foes had brought it."

For nearly 40 years, he halted the triumphant march of the British through southern India, refusing to make their peace with these foreign invaders, as most other powers did. This refusal to submit or compromise saw Tipu Sultan die on the battlefield in 1799, as he fought the British.

Even to this day, Tipu Sultan remains a controversial figure in Indian history. Clashing interpretations of contemporary accounts have produced a figure hailed as both a national hero and a brutal tyrant. He is seen as a restless moderniser, someone who worked to bring his kingdom into the future and resist foreign encroachment. In contrast, he has also been vilified for more than 200 years as a religious bigot who brutalised and forcibly converted Hindus and Christians under his rule. Monarch of the southern Indian state of Mysore from 1782 to

1799, he relentlessly opposed British expansionism in India to first get hailed as a patriot, only to be later denounced as a tyrant. A master military strategist is eclipsed by the doubts cast on his myriad economic and social experiments.

Ironically, there is plenty of archival materials on this historical figure, produced by enemies, friends, victims, captives, perpetrators of conquest, employees and hagiographers, topped off by the copious writings by the sultan himself. Despite this, it seems early colonial accounts, produced by the British, are responsible for driving the popular image of Tipu Sultan as a tyrant. Demonised by some, championed by others, Tipu Sultan remains a towering figure in Indian history.

'Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright'

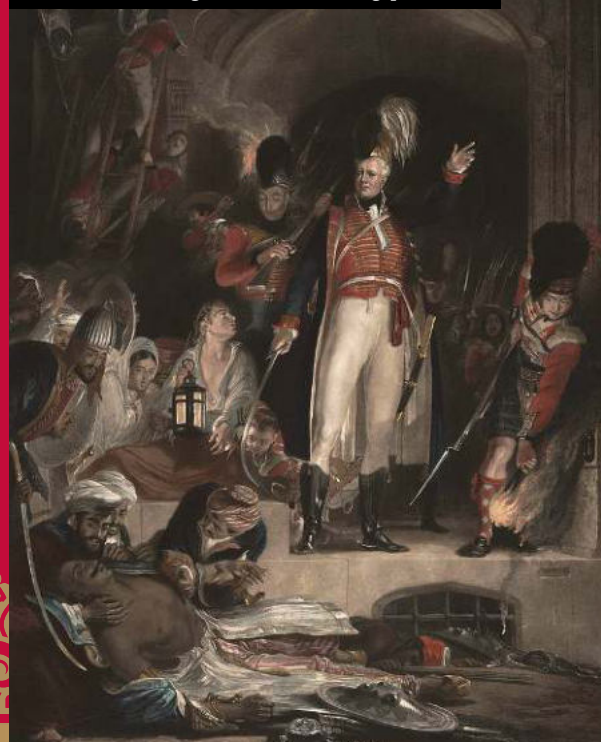
Tipu Sultan was the son of a talented soldier, Haider Ali Khan, who wrested control of Mysore from the Dalwais, or Commanders-in-Chief, who themselves had already usurped all effective power from the previous Wodeyar king, Chikka Krishna Raj XI. Haider Ali subjugated the petty local chieftains and grew Mysore into a powerhouse within the Indian peninsula. During the First and Second Anglo-Mysore Wars, Haider Ali had brought the British to their knees.

Tipu would come to inherit a formidable burden: his father died during the Second Mysore War that he successfully concluded, but two more wars with the British followed in the Third and Fourth

Anglo-Mysore Wars, as well as myriad battles with hostile neighbours on all sides, notably the Marathas to the north west, and the kingdom of Hyderabad to the north east. In 1792, at the end of the Third War, Tipu was corralled into ceding nearly half of his territory to the British and its Indian allies; was placed under a crippling debt; and gave two sons as hostages to the British until the debt was paid. He was defeated and killed only in the Siege of Seringapatam on 4 May 1799.

With their most formidable foe vanquished, the British lion had regained its honour, which neither the British people nor the Indians were allowed

General Sir David Baird discovering the body of Tipu Sultan after storming the fortress at Seringapatam





A mural painting inside Daria Daulat Bagh - the summer Palace of Tipu Sultan

to forget. In the days following Tipu's defeat, British soldiers looted an estimated £1,600,000 of 'prize money', consisting of coins, jewels, richly worked cloth, furniture and carpets. These were distributed to the rank-and-file and colonels alike.

After the plunder, the British feared the sultan's possessions might become powerful symbols of martyrdom, so Arthur Wellesley intervened to prevent the auctioning of Tipu's extensive wardrobe to stop them falling into the hands of the "discontented Moormen of this place." The 'Mysore Family', as Tipu's descendants were called, were dispatched first to Vellore Fort and then distant Calcutta. Soon after, a medal was issued in honour of that victory, depicting the British lion mauling the Mysore tiger. It is no surprise that the British were so quick to rewrite the life and times of this implacable enemy.

Modernise or perish

As well as a fierce military ruler, Tipu Sultan also oversaw many economic and administrative experiments. Most of Mysore's revenues came from the cultivation of the local land, so the sultan's first priority was to ensure that a good proportion of the revenues due from land were actually collected. The state coffers would need

to be well stocked to keep his vast army, some 100,000 men, at its height, ready for engagement. Lands were divided according to their yield, and taxed accordingly. There were graded taxes for cash crops like sugarcane, and wet or irrigated lands were taxed at four times the rate for dry or rain-fed lands. He was keen to encourage the cultivation of cash crops like betel nuts (a tasty snack) and sandalwood, known for its fragrance. He imported silk worms from Bengal and Muscat to begin what would become famous as Mysore silk. He maintained and enlarged local breeds of cattle under the amrit mahal, or sultan's cattle department, unique to Southern India.

The restless monarch was not content with regulating and improving his agrarian economy, and wanted to modernise some of its other sectors fast. At this time, India did not have a well-developed and ruthless merchant class that Britain and other colonial powers possessed, so Tipu Sultan saw the need for the state to step up and fill that void. He encouraged the establishment of state-run factories at Bangalore and Seringapatam, Bednore and Chitaldurg, Chennapatna and Chickballapur, for the production of everything from cotton and silk cloth to cannons and sugar, from paper and glass to guns and muskets.

Despite these innovations, Mysore's enemy, the British, still possessed superior industry and technology. Eager to level the playing field, the sultan turned to another western power: France. Tipu had a long-standing alliance with the French

Tipu's rockets

A terrifying weapon that rained death from above

In 1801, long before copyright became the norm, it was quite easy for Colonel William Congreve, known for his development of rocketry, to borrow generously from the designs and operations of the Mysore rocket. With this he developed and tested some of the biggest sky rockets available in London. News of the terrors sown by Mysore's famous 'rocket men' on the British troops during the First and Second Anglo-Mysore Wars had reached Britain even before Innes Munro, a British soldier, wrote his *A narrative of the military operations, on the Coromandel coast...* in 1789.

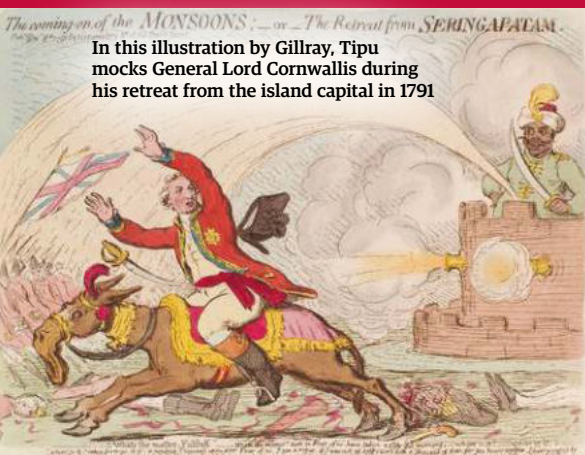
"Hyder Aly also employs some thousands of men for throwing rockets. This is a missive (sic) weapon and made in the same form as those used by schoolboys, with this difference, that the stalk is a thick bamboo, eight or ten feet long, which has a tube of iron, six to twelve pounds weight, fixed to the end of it, in which the fuse and the powder are placed... upon dry grounds, they are pointed horizontally... often creating great damage, particularly amongst cavalry and ammunition tumbrils."

Although the rockets or 'fire arrows' had been used in one form or another throughout history, the Mysore rockets of the late 18th century were far more advanced than anything Britain had ever known or used. This was because the iron tubes containing the propellant increased the thrust and range greatly. Colonel Arthur Wellesley, later the hero of Waterloo, headed a troop that was disordered by the "tremendous fire of musketry and rockets" in a grove near Srirangapatna on 5 April 1799, a setback he was keen to forget in later life.

Rigorous research and systematic studies at the Royal Woolwich Arsenal under Congreve in 1801 led to the manufacture of 13,109 rockets by August 1806. Britain's rapidly developing technologies had reaped the rewards of the experiments in warfare by one of its implacable foes, Tipu Sultan.



A soldier of Tipu Sultan uses his rocket as a flagstaff



In this illustration by Gillray, Tipu mocks General Lord Cornwallis during his retreat from the island capital in 1791

"British soldiers looted an estimated £1,600,000"



Mysore's relationship with the French began in Haider Ali's reign



John Zoffany's painting of Tipu Sultan inside the Daria Daulat Bagh in 1780

and employed European workmen in his factories and establishments. In addition to his ports and currency mints, and his efforts to introduce a banking corporation that included some welfarist measures, he recognised the importance of diplomatic and commercial contacts with Turkey and France, to which he sent embassies.

For Tipu, the state was "the chief merchant of his dominions." 30 factories were established in Mysore, and 17 elsewhere. He instituted a state monopoly of precious commodities, such as sandalwood, pepper, cardamom, elephants and timber. Once the sultan had fallen, the British thought it fit to continue most of these monopolies. Tipu, a man before his time, realised that without enormous economic reorganisation, he could neither run his war machine, nor ensure the tranquillity and prosperity of his people. And despite his indifferently successful experiments, this is what Edward Moor wrote in his *A Narrative of the Operations of Captain Little's Detachment*:

"When a person travelling through a strange country finds it well cultivated, populous with industrious inhabitants, cities newly founded, commerce extending, towns increasing and everything flourishing so as to indicate happiness, he will naturally conclude it to be under a form of government congenial to the minds of the people. This is a picture of Tippoo's country, and this our conclusion respecting its government."

An absolute ruler

In the 18th century, the Mughal Empire was already in terminal decline, and the rise of successor states showed that those with energy, will and ambition could carve out new,

independent territories. Haider and Tipu rose from nondescript social origins to head a powerful state through the exercise of extraordinary military, political and administrative acumen. If Haider only undermined the 'legitimate' authority of the Mysore Wodeyar or King, Tipu finally reduced him to a non-entity. Rather than depend on the creation of an aristocracy, local or foreign, in imitation not only of the Mughals but also of the lesser powers of the Deccan who scorned their lowly origins of the Mysore rulers, Tipu developed the framework of a bureaucratic state. State functionaries performed the task of governance in a more decentralised way, from Patels and Shanbagues to Amils and Asophs, from village level leaders to district level heads.

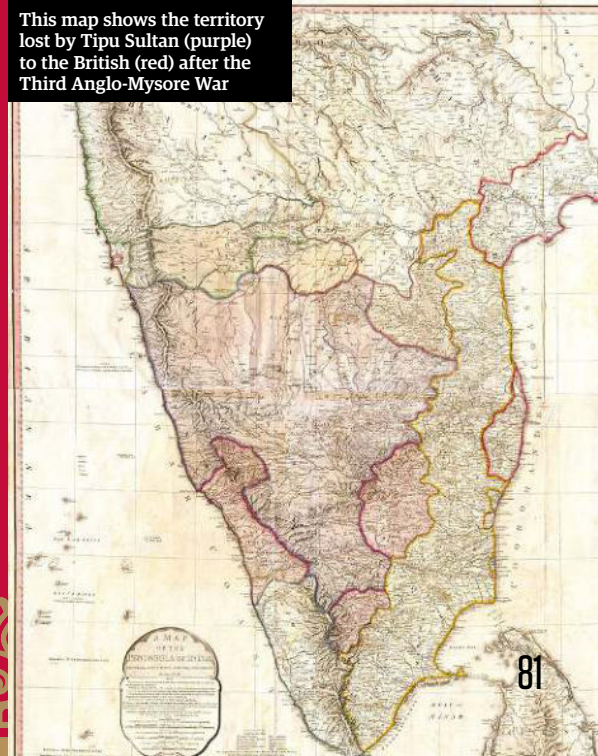
Tipu was certainly an absolutist ruler. He strove to change and alter not just the economy and administration, but also the habits and culture of those who came under his rule in Mysore and beyond. The folk ballads of Mysore, or 'lavanies', remember the man for his many prohibitions that intended to produce a more 'civilised' people. Tobacco and liquor were prohibited in Mysore, and attempts made to ban prostitution and trafficking.

Tipu sought to bring temples, mosques, chattrams (feeding houses) and dargahs (tombs of saints) under a new bureaucratic regime to reduce corruption and mismanagement, but also to garner resources for his war economy. Shocked by the polyandry that was practiced in Coorg, and the bare-breastedness of the people of Malabar, both regions over which he won control, he ordered that these practices be stopped and the women be covered. And in addition to introducing new weights and measures, Tipu Sultan inaugurated his rule in 1784 with a completely new calendar.

Pious Muslim, Jihadi or tyrant?

Tipu, himself named after Sufi saint Tipu Mastan Auliya, to whom his parents prayed for a son and

This map shows the territory lost by Tipu Sultan (purple) to the British (red) after the Third Anglo-Mysore War





Tomb of Tipu Sultan and Haidar Ali, Mysore, India, 1880-1890

heir, was an observant Sunni Muslim. That said, both his political strengths and vulnerabilities led him to make public pronouncements seen as contradictory. He referred to the British as 'infidels' and 'faithless Christians' who did not stoop to treachery and collusion to make their territorial gains. In contrast, he was more circumspect and respectful of the French, his allies.

He did not hesitate to refer to the Nizam of Hyderabad, a fellow Muslim who deserted him in his hour of need to align with the British, as Hajjam, a derisory reference to his caste. Of the Marathas, who also sided with the British, his choice of insult was not religious so much as questioning their prized masculinity.

Tipu began to acquire his notorious label as a tyrant early in his encounters with the British. According to historian Michael Soracoe, in early 1784, an "anonymous officer" in the East India Company's service wrote in the English press: "Tippoo Saib is far from the character he has been represented to us; instead of being a friend to peace, he had proved himself a restless, treacherous, inhuman tyrant. He is entirely influenced by French politics, and has four battalions of Dutch, Portuguese, and French in his service... his army is well appointed, and more formidable than that of his father Haider Ali."

Tipu was increasingly vilified for his actions against certain communities in his newly conquered dominions, notably the Catholics of Canara, the Coorgs, and the Nairs of Malabar - all of whom he identified as treacherous betrayers, before giving orders for conversion.

This was not a uniform policy however, which makes Tipu the enigma that he is. Accounts of Tipu's tyranny include destruction of temples, massacres of Brahmins, and conversion and castrations of different castes, as well as the dislocation of large numbers of people to different parts of his domain. Though these are exaggerated memories, there is a kernel of truth that has been admitted by even his warmest biographers. Yet the governor general of India, Sir John Shore, reluctantly noted in his minute of 18 February 1795: "during the [British] contest with [Tipu], no person of character, rank or influence, in his hereditary dominions, deserted his cause." If the sultan was as bloodthirsty as in popular memory,

would he have been able to hold the loyalty among both Hindu and Muslim officers?

The evidence on temple destruction is not robust either, since there is evidence of Tipu's conspicuous support of and benevolence towards the most important Hindu temple complexes, such as Sringeri and Nanjangud. In letters still preserved at Sringeri, the site of Mysore's most important temple and Brahmin monastery, the Marathas (of Hindu affiliation) "raided Sringeri, killed and wounded many people there, including many Brahmins, plundered the monastery of all

its valuable property, and committed the sacrilege of displaced the sacred image of the goddess Sarada." Tipu Sultan showed no hesitation in communicating his concern to the Jagadguru, the chief abbot of Sringeri, calling for the re-consecration of the 'holy place'. He requested that some specific ceremonies be performed, for which he received a share of consecrated offerings to the Gods, called prasada, and in turn made presents to both deity and Swami.

Throughout his 17-year reign, Tipu Sultan's own allegiance to Islam was not unwavering. Since

"Tipu began to acquire his notorious label as a tyrant"

The storming of Seringapatam in 1799 spelt the end of Tipu Sultan's reign



The Battle of Pollilur was an ignominious defeat of the British during the Second Anglo-Mysore War

The tiger's stripe

A unique curiosity that symbolises the sultan's treasured emblem and hatred of the British

The famous 'tiger organ', which now amuses viewers at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, was among the many fascinating objects found after the British defeated Tipu. It is "a most curious piece of mechanism, as large as life," which shows a full-grown tiger devouring a British soldier, and operates in the "manner of a hand organ" letting out a loud wail as the hapless soldier's arm rises and falls. Tipu's obsession with the tiger as the symbol of courage and valour had led him to incorporate the animal or the babri (tiger stripe) in an astonishing

variety of ways, "painted, pen made, embroidered, carved, modeled, cast and inlaid." The babri was emblazoned on an equally astonishing variety of objects, ranging from furnishings, wall decorations, soldier's uniforms, sword-hilts, carpets or paintings.

The tiger was a localised equivalent of the Persian symbol of the lion. Symbolising strength, watchfulness, cunning and dominance of the habitat, the tiger was a metaphor for someone who lived fearlessly and strove for total domination of region.

Out with the old

The wooden instrument was given a major refit by the British, who gave it a few new coats of paint and an improved organ mechanism.

Semitonal tiger

The 18-note organ is played when the handle is cranked, but its layout would make it extremely difficult to crank and play at the same time.



The tiger's roar

A set of bellows inside the tiger, powered by the hand crank, provides both the scream of the victim and the growl of the tiger.

A helping hand

Many historians think that French engineers, being allied to Tipu Sultan at the time, lent a hand in building this incredible automaton.

his father was a 'usurper', and his own origins therefore less than regal, he sought legitimacy in a number of ways, by having the Friday khutba (sermon) read in his name, and minting coins at his five royal mints that, by omission, rejected even the nominal superiority of the Mughal Emperor. Then, giving up the name of Haideri Sarkar for his government, Tipu adopted the title of Badshah of the Sultanat I Khudadad (God-given government) in 1787. In



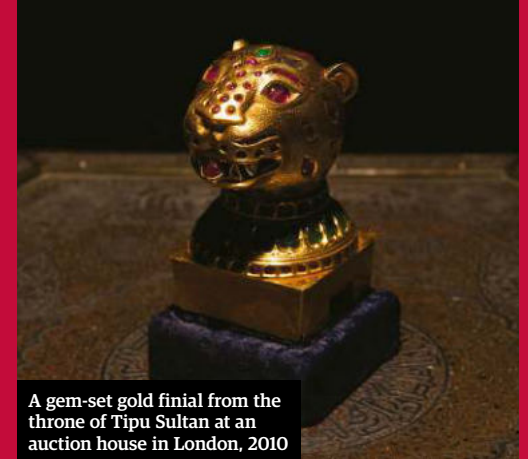
In this commemorative medal of Tipu Sultan's defeat, the British lion is seen mauling the Mysore tiger, 4 May 1799

short, he was answerable to no one but God for his actions.

However, Tipu understood that he was a Muslim king of a predominantly Hindu domain, and many of his more severe actions were tempered by his recognition of the need to retain his legitimacy.

Tipu's fortunes were waning by the late 1780s as the forces of the Marathas and the Nizam moved to the British camp, while French

support was becoming less and less reliable. The governor general at the time, Lord Cornwallis, had the armies of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay at his command, and recognised Tipu as a "prince of uncommon ability and of boundless ambition" who threatened Company possessions in India; he felt compelled to curb him. An initial - and ignominious - setback in 1791 at Seringapatam was memorialised in James Gillray's cartoon.



A gem-set gold finial from the throne of Tipu Sultan at an auction house in London, 2010

Cornwallis pressed a harsh treaty on Tipu following the Third Anglo-Mysore War, but it was his successor, Richard Wellesley, who was determined to end the house of Mysore, and isolated Tipu before organising his defeat.

The breach and storming of the island fort of Seringapatam, which had long withstood enemy attacks, was enabled in part by the treachery of Tipu's own men. Even at this penultimate hour, the British underestimated the warrior who had determined to die fighting. When the fort was taken, troops combed the palace for the 'Tiger', and found him under a heap of corpses, sword still in his hand. The British domination of southern India was now complete.

In order to scrub the place of any trace of this fallen hero, and to prevent discontents from grouping around the memory of a valiant Tipu, the East Indian Company decided to revive a dynasty that had long been forgotten, the Wodeyars, and also shift the capital from Seringapatam to Mysore. The island capital soon became a pilgrimage site for British soldiers to relive their victory. Two of Tipu's palaces were then dismantled; only one summer palace and his mausoleum were allowed to remain.

Tipu Sultan Mohammad Iqbal, the noted Urdu poet, who meditated at Tipu Sultan's tomb in 1929, later wrote:

I have lighted a different fire in the heart.
I have brought a tale from the Deccan...
There I heard from his holy grave;
If one cannot live a manly life in this world
Then to sacrifice life, like a man, is life!

Unfortified camp

Grand Vizier Kara Mustafa blundered by failing to occupy, patrol and defend the high ground of the Wienerwald west of the sprawling Ottoman camp against an enemy advance from that direction.

Mining the walls

Vienna's garrison defended a 6.4-kilometre circuit of walls in the two months before the relief army arrived. Turkish sappers detonated explosives in tunnels under the outer walls in order to collapse them. Although the Turks captured most of the outerworks, they were unable to break into the city.

Rough ride

The Kahlenberg was a ridge with three separate peaks northwest of Vienna. Its rocky slopes were pockmarked and scarred with boulders and ravines that made it unsuitable for cavalry operations. For this reason, Polish King Jan Sobieski and his generals led their horsemen onto the plain below before ordering them to charge.



Great warrior

Polish King Jan Sobieski, wearing a grey robe and purple mantle, led from the front during the battle. He and his staff monitored the progress of their forces and made adjustments as necessary to ensure the success of their attack. The king also arranged for German musketeers to furnish supporting fire for his cavalry.



BATTLE OF VIENNA

VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 12 SEPTEMBER 1683

Written by William E Welsh

“Jesus and Mary deliver us!” shouted Polish King Jan Sobieski as he waved forward his elite cavalry against the Ottoman army that encircled Vienna. The Polish winged hussars were an intimidating sight clad in their iron breastplates, draped in animal skins, with a wooden board lined with feathers strapped to their backs, signifying their speed and predatory nature. Halfway to their foe they lowered their lances and quickened their pace to a gallop. They crashed into the first rank of the lightly armoured Ottoman sipahis at full force. Many of the hussars were able to bury the steel tips of their lances in the chest or stomach of an enemy soldier.

Although Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent had failed to take Vienna by siege in 1529, political events in the late 17th century set the stage for a fresh attempt by the still-powerful Ottoman Empire. With rival France pressing the Holy Roman Empire from the west and stretching its military resources, Sultan Mehmet IV agreed to let his top commander, Grand Vizier Kara Mustafa Pasha, lead a great army against the Imperial citadel on the Danube River. News of the Ottoman army's approach threw the city into complete panic, and Emperor Leopold I and his court fled for the safety of Bavaria.

Leopold entrusted the defence of Lower Austria to Duke Charles of Lorraine. After sending a sizeable force to garrison the city, Charles retreated west with the Austrian army. Calls for assistance went to Poland and all four corners of the Holy Roman Empire, but it would take many weeks before allied

troops converged on Austria in an attempt to rescue the city.

Kara Mustafa had grandiose dreams. He not only wanted to conquer Vienna, but also Rome. He hoped to set himself up as the semi-autonomous ruler of the newly conquered territories. On 14 July the Ottoman army arrived before the walls of Vienna. In the following weeks, Turkish artillery battered the city's high walls, and Turkish sappers mined the walls, but still they could not capture the city.

The various components of the Imperial-Polish relief army rendezvoused at Krems 50 miles upstream of Vienna on 1 September. The Polish king was given overall command of the army because he outranked the duke, but Charles of Lorraine served as the chief of staff, developing the tactical plan to relieve the city.

The battle began with a spirited attack by Imperial forces on the Ottoman right flank. A lull occurred at midday as the Poles moved into position on high ground overlooking the sprawling Ottoman camp. When the Poles began a series of charges against the Ottoman left wing in the late afternoon, the Imperial forces renewed their assault against the Ottoman right. Advancing Imperial forces carried the redoubts at the Turkenschanz, a key Ottoman strong point, which caused the Ottoman right flank to give way. Meanwhile, the Polish cavalry assailed their foe with lances, curved sabers and war hammers. Unable to hold up against the combined pressure of the Imperial and Polish armies, the Ottoman troops fled the field. Kara Mustafa was strangled with a silk cord in Belgrade as punishment for the debacle.

Trampled janissaries

The Polish cavalry cut down or trampled the Turkish infantry caught in the open plain of Vienna. Although there was plenty of construction material in the Ottoman camp that could have been used to build makeshift barricades, the Turks did not build field fortifications, and it cost them the battle.



Imperial-Polish Army Troops

TROOPS 88,000
CANNON 500



POLISH KING JAN III SOBIESKI

LEADER

Sobieski was a devout, decisive and charismatic commander whose presence on the battlefield boosted the morale of the Imperial-Polish Army.

Strengths: A gifted battlefield commander with proven administrative and tactical skills.

Weaknesses: Fragile ego and suspicious of his allies.



POLISH WINGED HUSSARS

KEY UNIT

Heavy cavalry that served as shock troops whose objective was to shatter enemy formations for lighter cavalry to mop up.

Strengths: Proven effectiveness against Ottoman sipahis.

Weaknesses: Ineffective against volley fire by musketeers.

LANCE

KEY WEAPON

The main weapon of the Polish winged hussars was the 17-foot long hollow pole with a forged steel tip.

Strengths: Transmitted combined force of horse and rider for powerful shock effect.

Weaknesses: Often lost or shattered in the initial charge.



01 Arduous trek

The Imperialist-Polish army marched through the rugged, hilly terrain of the Wienerwald, which Duke Charles of Lorraine correctly surmised the Ottomans would not expect them to use. The troops had to cut their own roads through the forest. The march proved particularly difficult for the Polish heavy cavalry. Polish King Jan Sobieski complained bitterly afterwards that the maps issued to the Poles did not accurately reflect the true ruggedness of the terrain.

02 First blood

The battle heated up at 8am when Charles of Lorraine's infantry squares and German dragoons fighting dismounted dislodged Ottoman janissaries from several key villages near the Danube River. The janissaries were armed with matchlock muskets that had greater range and fired larger bullets than the lighter Austrian muskets. This allowed the Turks to inflict significant casualties on the Austrians in the clashes that occurred throughout the morning.

03 No quarter

Neither side expected nor did it receive mercy from its opponent. When the Turks temporarily regained ground in their counterattacks during the morning on the slopes of the Kahlenberg Heights, they methodically beheaded wounded Christian soldiers.

04 Ottoman reserve committed

Sobered by the success of the vanguard of the Christian relief army against his right flank, Grand Vizier Kara Mustafa sent his bodyguard and household troops to reinforce the Ottoman right flank and committed the remainder of his reserve to strengthen the Ottoman left wing.

05 Rallying point

Kara Mustafa ordered the Holy Banner of the Prophet planted on the Turkenschanz, a fortified position two miles northwest of Vienna, to signify the location as a rallying point. The Turks had to hold the position at all costs in order to prevent the relief army from opening a corridor to the Imperial garrison in the city.





10 Kara Mustafa flees

Grand Vizier Kara Mustafa rode to his pavilion to gather his most important possessions. After packing up his private treasure and the Royal Banner of the Prophet, he joined the Ottoman flight south to Hungary.

09 Garrison joins fight

To assist the relief army, Count Ernst Starhemberg orders his Imperial infantry to sally forth from the city and fall on the rear of the Ottoman army, catching it unawares.

08 Assault on the Turkenschanz

Kara Mustafa watched as the Christian attack on the Ottoman redoubts on high ground at the Turkenschanz unfolded. An artillery barrage softened the position, and German infantry squares delivered volleys of musket fire. As the Germans were about to capture the Holy Banner of the Prophet, Kara Mustafa led a counterattack to retrieve the banner.

06 Polish cavalry deploys

The Polish heavy cavalry, which is organised in three corps, deploys at 4pm in checkerboard formation for their attack. They advance slowly through the vineyards on the forward slope of the escarpment at the eastern edge of the Wienerwald. The fearsome winged hussars take their position at the front. Behind them are medium and light cavalry whose job is to exploit the breaches in the enemy line made by the hussars.

07 Cavalry probes

Polish King Jan Sobieski ordered 150 Crown Hussars to charge the Ottoman position to gauge enemy strength and firepower. They broke through the first line of sipahis, but were surrounded and had to fight their way out. They returned to their lines having lost 50 men. Polish General Nicolas Sieniawski ordered a 150-man unit to charge the Ottoman sipahis, and it also was badly cut up.



Ottoman Army

TROOPS 138,000
CANNON 300



GRAND VIZIER KARA MUSTAFA PASHA

LEADER

Believed that his army was powerful enough to capture Vienna, a difficult objective that had eluded previous Ottoman commanders.

Strengths: Veteran commander with a rather wide range of military experience.

Weaknesses: His overconfidence, greed and ambition clouded his military judgment.



OTTOMAN SIPAHIS

KEY UNIT

Elite Turkish heavy cavalrymen who were paid professionals trained and outfitted by the Ottoman state.

Strengths: Able to shoot the recurved bow at full gallop on horseback.

Weaknesses: Less armoured than their European counterparts.



KILIJ

KEY WEAPON

A one-handed, single-edged sabre, well suited for cavalry because of its shape and design.

Strengths: The wide end section of the blade made it effective against armour.

Weaknesses: Less effective for stabbing and thrusting.

THE STORIES, STRATEGIES, HEROES & MACHINES

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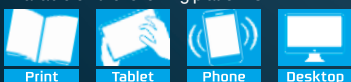


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How to make... BEDOUIN COFFEE

NOMADIC WELCOME DRINK MIDDLE EAST, 1500 – PRESENT

Ingredients

- Whole Arabica coffee beans (unroasted)
- Cardamom pods
- Water
- Optional: cinnamon, saffron, sugar

Did you know?

Bedouin hospitality is so inclusive that any traveller may stay with the nomads for three days before being asked why they are there.

The ancestors of the nomadic Bedouin people have been present in the Syrian steppe since around 850 BCE, where small, temporary settlements formed as people caravanned camels across the desert. They are regarded as the true Arabs. An incredibly welcoming and hospitable culture, the preparation and drinking of coffee is an important ritual for visitors to a Bedouin camp.

The coffee plant originated in Ethiopia but made its way to the Middle East in the 1400s. Yemen was in fact the first country to cultivate the beans, and coffee quickly became the drink of Islam. Sufi mystics (a branch of Islam) used the drink to fuel and energise their practices at night, and the drink - known as 'qahwa' (both of our words 'coffee' and 'café' derive from this) - quickly spread across the Arabic nations and throughout the Ottoman Empire, making its way to Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries.

These days, most countries throughout the Middle East have their own method for brewing and preparing the coffee.

METHOD

- 01** Build a campfire (in the desert for utmost authenticity) and wait for the flames to burn down. Then slow roast the coffee beans until they turn a rich, dark brown. If a desert campfire isn't available, you can do the steps on a kitchen hob.
- 02** Grind up the beans using a pestle and mortar. Pound the beans and ring the side of the mortar to let neighbours know that coffee is brewing and that they are welcome to join you.
- 03** Crush up an equal amount of cardamom pods in the same way (if you like, you can then brush the pestle on your moustache - Bedouin men sometimes do this for the scent of hospitality).
- 04** Add the ground cardamom and coffee to your boiling pot (called a briq) and place it directly onto the fire. Top it up with some water, and then bring it to the boil. Let the grounds froth to the top for a few minutes.
- 05** For a more elaborate flavour you can add other spices, such as cinnamon and saffron (just a teaspoon or less of each, according to taste).
- 06** When the coffee is ready, transfer it to an elegant serving pot known as the dallah. With your guests seated, stand and pour the first cup (known as a fenjaan) for yourself - take a sip to test it!
- 07** Bedouin tradition dictates that hot coffee be served to guests from right to left. Fill the small cups around two-thirds full. If a guest extends his hand and cup, give him a refill, or if he covers his cup and shakes his hand, he has had enough.
- 08** You can also serve your coffee with a plate of dates - a traditional sweet accompaniment for welcoming guests with coffee that goes perfectly with the smoky, spicy coffee.
- 09** Drink your coffee in three sips - it's good manners. Also, be sure not to drink *all* of it, as the coffee grounds will be hiding at the bottom of the cup!

REVIEWS

All About History on the books, TV shows and
films causing a stir in the history world

THE ISLAND THAT DISAPPEARED: OLD PROVIDENCE AND THE MAKING OF THE WESTERN WORLD

The hidden history of Britain's failed Caribbean empire revealed

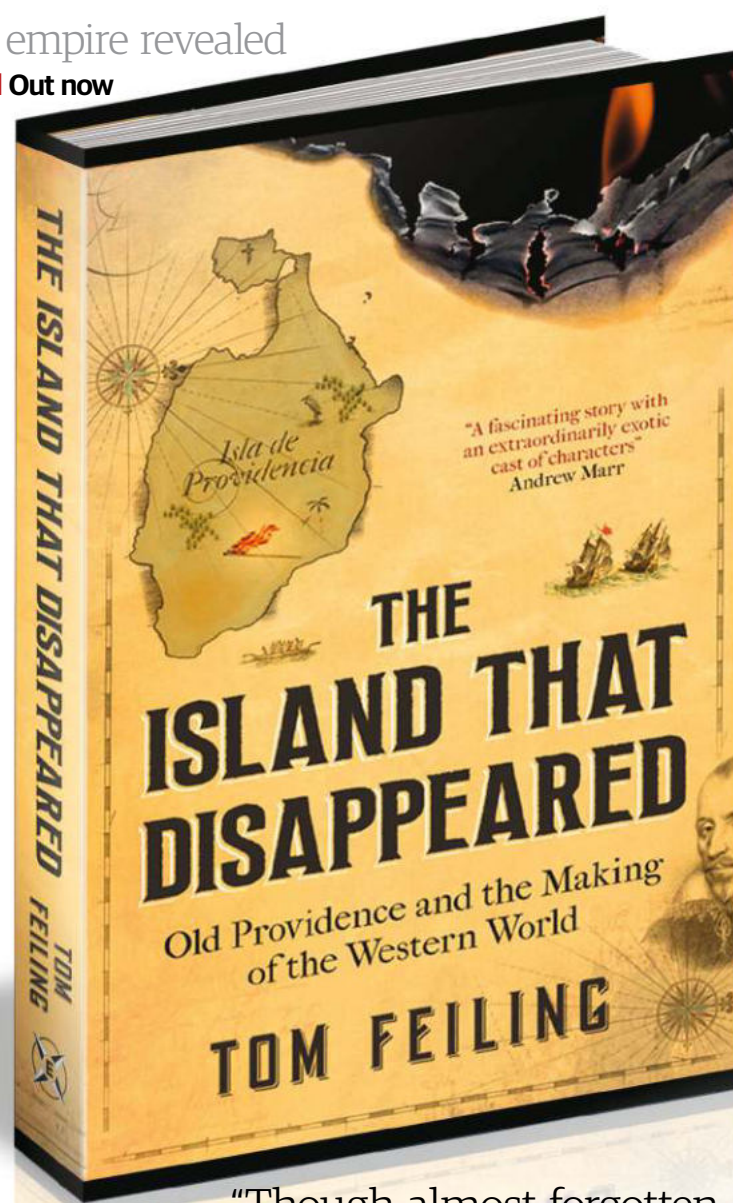
Author Tom Feiling **Publisher** Explore Books **Price** £14.99 **Released** Out now

Pretty much everyone has heard of Mayflower, the iconic ship that sailed the Pilgrim Fathers to the New World and straight into American mythology. However, have you heard of its sister ship, Seaflower? Both transported plucky bands of English puritans, but where the famous vessel travelled to Massachusetts, Seaflower instead journeyed south. Its passengers were convinced that the empire England needed would be built in luscious Central America, so founded their own rival colony on Providence, a tiny island off the coast of Nicaragua, in 1630. While the venture clearly didn't work out quite as the colonists had hoped, British journalist Tom Feiling explores the island's secret history in *The Island That Disappeared*.

Though almost entirely forgotten today, Feiling reveals that the island has actually been a touchstone for major historical events. The colony was in part financed by John Pym and John Hampden, who were two of the openly critical MPs (the so-called 'Five Members') King Charles I tried to arrest in 1642, sparking the English Civil War. After crops failed, many of the colonists turned to privateering, so Providence served as a pirate den, earning it a passing mention in Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* and occupation by the infamous Captain Henry Morgan (who later inspired the spiced rum). The island was also continually caught in the crossfire of Britain and Spain's competing imperial ambitions and was an early adopter of the African slave trade.

While strictly non-fiction, Feiling recreates the most dramatic scenes - such as the discovery of the island by English explorers and an attack by Spanish forces - with a enthralling narrative flourish. But the journalist is careful to bring his cast of puritans, Parliamentarians and pirates to life only by quoting from their private letters and the official documents of Providence Island Company. After exhausting the records of the National Archive, the author even moved to Providence (or Old Providence / Isla de Providencia as it's now known by its bilingual residents) for four months. After arriving to find the island's own records office had burnt down many years ago, he turned to interviewing the locals. These conversations, along with a travelogue of the writer's experiences, make up the latter half of the book. On the one hand, these accounts offer insight into the modern life on the island and to what extent Britain's legacy lives on in this Colombian territory. However, these vignettes - which consist of people sitting around talking - intersperse the tail end of Providence's history, as it slipped into obscurity. Following such a heady mix of swashbuckling and civil war, the second half does leave us wondering if Feiling should have instead narrowed the focus of his 400-year history.

Ultimately, *The Island That Disappeared* does a remarkable job of walking a tightrope between local and global events, personal and public history, as well providing a compelling case of why Providence's hidden past deserves remembering.



"Though almost forgotten about today, Feiling reveals the island has been a touchstone for major historical events"

DESTINATION UNKNOWN

Twelve Holocaust survivors recount their harrowing stories on camera

Certificate TBC **Director** Claire Ferguson **Cast** Mietek Pemper, Ed Mosberg, Regina Lewis, Victor Lewis **Released** 16 June

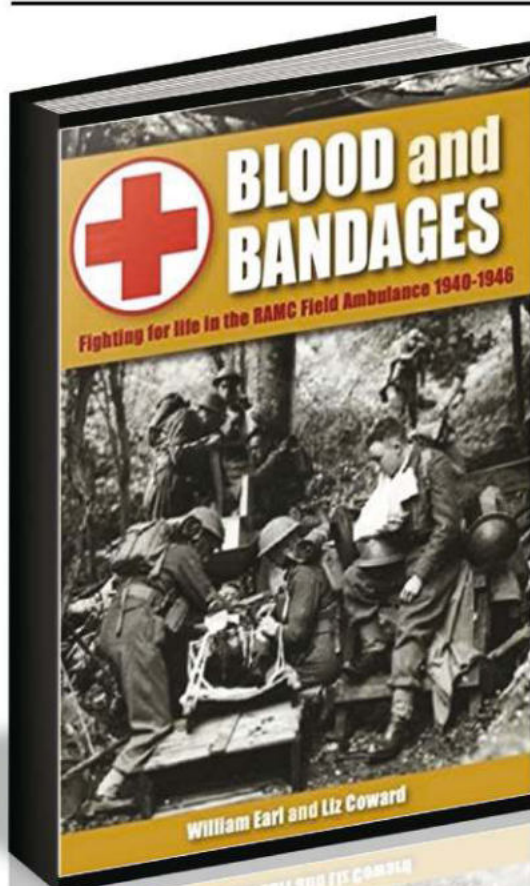
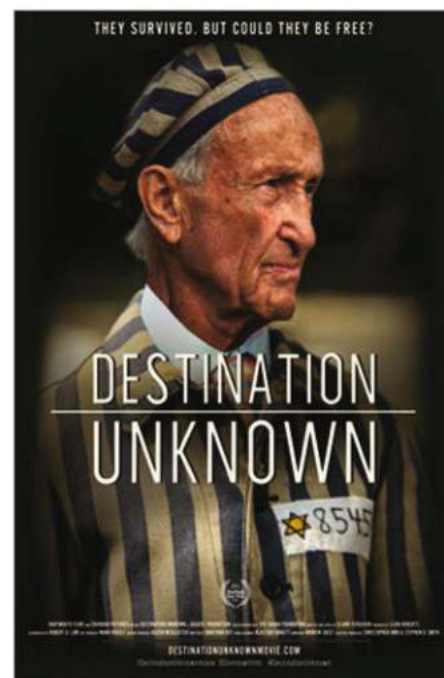
Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah* (1985) stands like a monolith above all other Holocaust documentaries. The French director's epic, which clocks in at nearly 10 hours, is arguably the greatest film ever made about the ultimate 20th century atrocity. It also had a central thesis wrought from a sense of existentialist and historical investigation, finding much in common with Stephen Dedalus's famous line in James Joyce's *Ulysses* (1922): "History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake."

Presenting the recollections of 12 survivors, *Destination Unknown* (2016) is a swift 78 minutes and mixes talking head interviews with grim footage sourced from global archives. As fascinating and often heart-wrenching as it is, Claire Ferguson's documentary feels like a missed

opportunity somewhat and the structure is clumsy.

Survivors living in the aftermath of profound tragedy, their collective and individual grief is what Ferguson should have exclusively focused on. The doc does touch upon these themes, especially toward the end, but it could have done much more so. "The pain is wherever I am. I feel the pain every single day," as one interviewee starkly puts it.

An elderly woman proudly showing off family photographs on her living room wall, pointing out portraits of long deceased relatives (all killed in gas chambers by the Nazis), talking with such clarity and love, as if she saw them just yesterday, is without a doubt *Destination Unknown's* most emotionally devastating scene. It is unbearably sad in ways most of us will never understand.



BLOOD AND BANDAGES

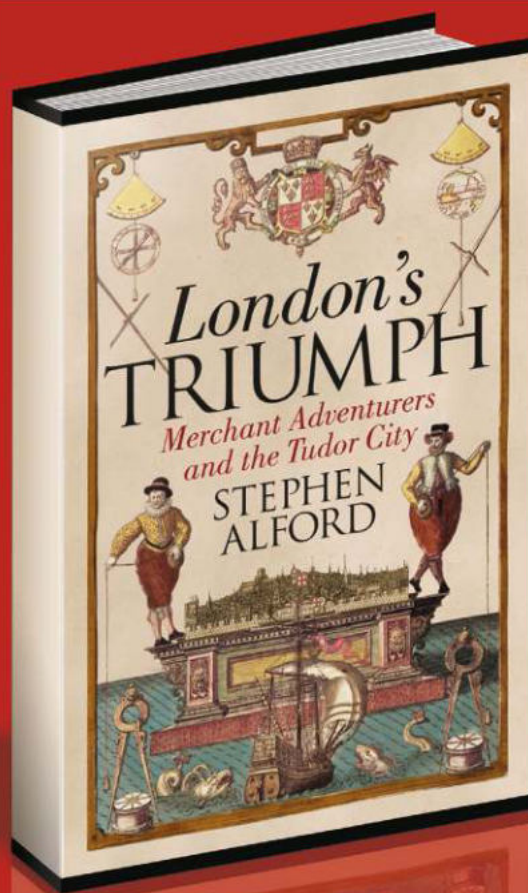
Going to battle without a gun

Author William Earl and Liz Coward **Publisher** Sabrestorm Publishing

Price £19.99 **Released** Out now

With the youngest of the last generation of World War II veterans approaching a full century, tales from the battlefields in France, Italy and Africa are a dying breed. Even rarer are the stories of the non-combatants: former nursing orderly William Earl is 102 now, was 26 when he was called into service for the Royal Army Medical Corps, responsible for rescuing and patching up Allied soldiers on the front line. They were medical, not military men and as such, weren't armed. They wore Red Cross brassards on their arms and the Axis forces amassing against the infantry they took care of were supposed to honour the Geneva convention and avoid targeting the RAMC. They usually did, but Red Crosses aren't a physical shield against a stray bullet or shell, and the ambulance men were frequently caught in the crossfire and killed during battles.

It took as much mental fortitude and courage to stretcher men off the battlefield as it did to face the enemy down the length of a rifle, and William experienced the same grim reality as any soldier. Witness to horrific injuries, friends dying and subject to daily fear for his own life, William's four years with the RAMC have left mental scars. He tells his story, a deeply personal account of the war and his movements following the punishing retreat of the German forces through North Africa and Italy, as historian Liz Coward weaves a broader commentary of the progress of the war throughout. It's an effective dynamic, a few paragraphs of William's experience of the frontline here, then an overview from Liz that reveals how lucky he was to make it through the Allied Italy campaign. Illustrated with some of William's photos, *Blood And Bandages* is easy to read and a unique perspective of WWII.



LONDON'S TRIUMPH: MERCHANT ADVENTURERS AND THE TUDOR CITY

The rise of a medieval city into a global community

Author Stephen Alford **Publisher** Allen Lane **Price** £20 **Released** Out now

London's *Triumph* tells the story of 16th century London from a new perspective. Instead of focusing upon the politics, Alford digs deeper to give the reader a satisfying portrait of the city at work behind the glitter and riches of kings and queens. The names mentioned in this book may not be familiar, but they are just as vital to the development of London as a global community.

We are shown a London charged with energy and entrepreneurship. In a city as diverse as it is proud, immigrants work with gentlemen's younger sons and those who have become disillusioned with life in the countryside. When this blend of cultures, experiences, and beliefs comes together, it creates a London unafraid to dream its way to being one of the world's leading business centres.

The author examines the role of faith, once a vital concern of monarchs and subjects, as it becomes secondary to making a living.

Churches remain a uniting community centre, but the role of worship evolves throughout the century, forming in London a worldview that modern readers find more familiar than that of the first Tudors.

Through the stories of merchant adventurers who made and lost fortunes in Antwerp, the newly discovered Russian court, and in precarious relationships with the crown, a richer story of Tudor London is revealed. The reader sees the city rise, the Royal Exchange built, the crowds swell in St Paul's courtyard. After watching the city claim victory over famine, disease, and adversity, it is almost heartbreaking to be reminded that it all had to be rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1666.

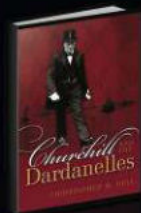
This examination of the merchants of Tudor London and the extreme risks they took to establish the city as a global trading centre gives a new appreciation for the glimpses of Medieval England still tucked around the city,

HISTORY WAR

RECOMMENDS...

Churchill & The Dardanelles

Author: Christopher Bell **Price:** £25
Publisher: OUP



The Dardanelles Campaign of 1915, and the role of the man most closely associated with it remains enveloped in controversy to this day.

The names Winston Churchill

and the Dardanelles Straits are intrinsically linked and as author Christopher M Bell tells us in his meticulously researched account, "the campaign still casts a long shadow over Churchill's reputation."

Bell makes it clear that Churchill was neither the hero nor the victim, and that these campaigns do not lend themselves to sweeping generalisations. It is worth noting that in his history of World War II, Churchill himself acknowledged that, "War is usually a catalogue of blunders."

THE SEYMOURS OF WOLF HALL

A revealing portrait of the family of Henry VIII's Queen Jane

Author David Loades **Publisher** Amberley Publishing **Price** £9.99 **Released** Out now

During the reign of Henry VIII, the Seymour family seems to come out of nowhere to rise to the pinnacle of power in England. Loades investigates the background and characteristics of this family to discover how one of their number became queen without the scheming and positioning that had put the Boleyn faction in power. First arriving with William the Conqueror, the Seymours seem to be a rare example of a family who climbed the ranks on their own merit, with siblings Jane and Edward finding themselves close to the king without machinations.

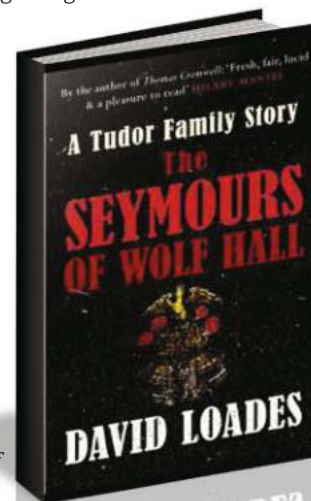
The book does not linger too long on Jane's time as queen, and brings other members of the family to the fore. In particular, the reader is treated to detailed background on Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, whose meteoric rise from courtier to lord protector is often assumed to be due to his sister's position. Loades provides a compelling argument for the idea that it was Edward's personal skill and character that made him useful to the king.

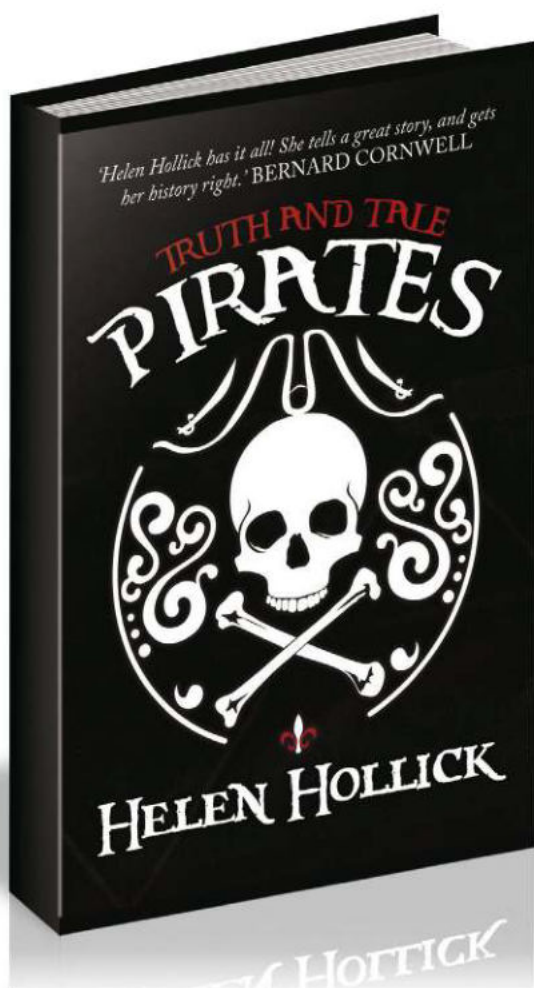
The details included in this book are enjoyable for the Tudor enthusiast looking for more information on the Seymour family. However, it is somewhat odd to discover what details are not included, such as the scandal with Edward's first wife and disinherited children. There are also clear errors, as when it is stated that Catherine Grey

was imprisoned with her husband, the younger Edward Seymour, when the purpose of their imprisonment was to keep them apart.

The remainder of the Seymour story beyond the Tudor period is told in a handful of pages, making this a book primarily focused on Edward with chapters giving summaries of the lives of Jane, Thomas, Henry, and Edward VI. Mirroring the beginning of the book that tracks the Seymours from Medieval France to Tudor England, the epilogue follows the Seymour family tree to present day.

This book examines an intriguing family whose rise to power could have placed their descendants upon the throne of England for generations. Tudor enthusiasts looking to expand their knowledge of the prominent players will enjoy seeing the Seymours revealed in *The Seymours Of Wolf Hall*.





PIRATES: TRUTH AND TALE

The lives of pirates as you've never seen them before

Author Helen Hollick **Publisher** Amberley Publishing **Price** £20 **Released** Out now

The word 'pirate' summons up childhood tales of swashbuckling nomads out at sea, looting valuable treasures and storming through dangerous seas on a belly of rum. Hollick values these precious childhood connotations and fills in the now adult mind with truths and facts, talking the reader through what they should know about the Golden Age of piracy. It's not just that the author has created highly entertaining content, but she has also created a cache of biographies, drawing upon a few valuable names from the history books as examples of real-life pirates such as Grace O'Malley, a Tudor pirate who gave Queen Elizabeth I sleepless nights, and Frenchman Daniel Montbars, aka 'The Exterminator'.

Despite our belief that all pirates were baddies, some of the characters in the book are looked upon more favourably, such as William Dampier, the man who came to the rescue a well known

Scottish privateer who had spent four years living as a castaway after he was marooned by his captain, showing all sides of a group of lesser-known individuals. With each chapter covering a different area - and often era - of the pirate world, from pirate codes to myths and legends about what really happened on board the pirate ships, readers can devour the book in one or dip in and out of chapters, and still have their thirst for pirate knowledge quenched.

Hollick takes the reader on an adventure thanks to her ability to connect with the reader, in addition to the use of intense imagery. The author has created a book that is all the more enjoyable because it feels like a work of fiction, with the added benefit of well researched truths. Hollick delves into the upkeep of pirate ships, medicine, entertaining sea shanties, murder, love, sunken treasure and mysterious ships, making it a truly superb read.

JOSEPHINE BAKER

This graphic novel biography dances like nobody's watching

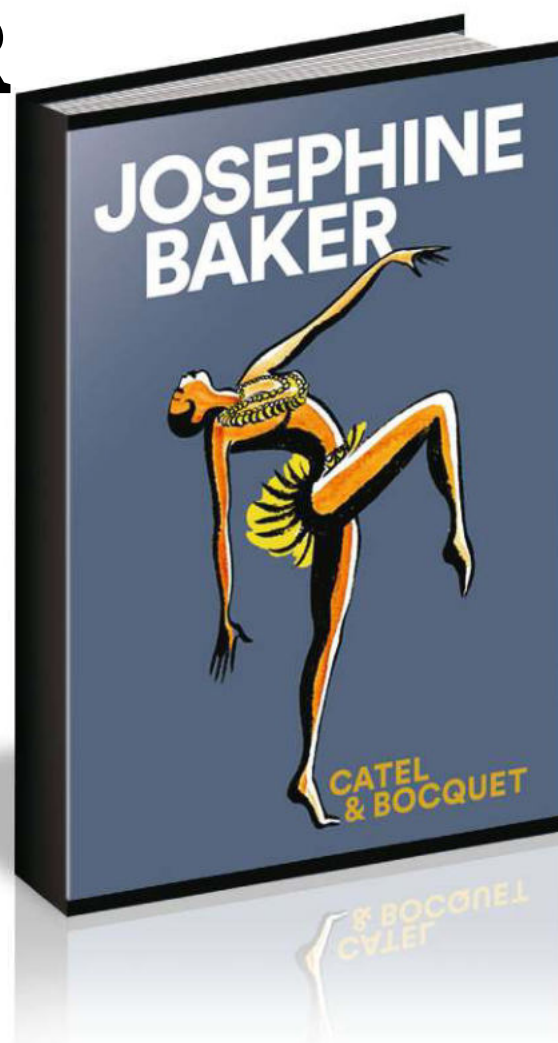
Creators Catel and Bocquet **Publisher** SelfMadeHero **Price** £14.99 **Released** Out now

Josephine Baker certainly packed a lot of drama - and history - into her life. Growing up on the wrong side of white and destined for domestic servitude and an early marriage, she absolutely refused to let her star quality be silenced in an age where opportunities for black women were few. Travelling to France, where she was served by a white waiter for the first time, courted by white suitors and applauded by a white audience, she found her calling, becoming *the* iconic chanteuse of both the stage and silver screen.

Rather than abandon the world she had escaped from to become 'politely black', Baker instead became fiercely political - she spied for the Free French in World War II, stood as a Civil Rights icon and possible heir to Martin Luther King, and adopted a 'rainbow tribe' of orphans to try and show the world a better way of life.

And those are just the edited highlights, which is the only real problem with Catel and Bocquet's hefty black-and-white graphic novel. Even at 500 pages, it all whizzes by too fast with so many big names and big ideas reduced to cameos to the extent that the full-page biographies and timeline in the postscript become essential references. But Catel and Bocquet have been here before, with their similarly hefty *Kiki de Montparnasse*, a biography of the 1920s nightclub singer and model, Alice Prin.

It's a small criticism in the grand scheme of things though, and *Josephine Baker* offers a vibrant window into a changing world, the thick black lines capturing her character so effortlessly, from the seductive arch of her back and the oiled ringlet of hair, to the incredible motion of performance. So what if context passes by so fleetingly? If all the world's a stage, then Baker is the star.



HISTORY ANSWERS

Send your questions to questions@historyanswers.co.uk



Many Roman roads are still in acceptable condition after 1,600 years

How long did it take to build Roman roads?

Justin Whalin

Roman roads came in many different grades of size and quality, but the most impressive were the *viae* that connected cities to each other or to the coast. Roman Britain had between 3-4,000 kilometres of these roads and British roads were unique because they were constructed on a raised bank or *agger*, which could be 1.8 metres high and 15 metres wide. This is why roads are known as highways, and it was probably a defensive tactic. A raised road improves visibility and allows fighting from a height advantage in the case of ambush by belligerent local tribes.

Where a road passed through woodland, the trees would be cleared to at least 30 metres on either side – again to prevent ambushes. The road itself consisted of several layers of gravel and rocks, held together with mortar and topped with gravel or closely fitted flagstones. Each kilometre of road probably required a workforce of 70 men working for a month. Roman records show that entire roads of 100-200 kilometres were usually constructed within two years, which means several thousand labourers must have been working independently at points along the route, joining together at high points, where the road changed direction.

What was silent bartering?

Michael H. Mikus

It was a way of negotiating a commercial exchange without the participants directly interacting. It was most commonly used between 500 and 1500 in west Africa when trading salt. Salt was a very valuable commodity and the salt merchants were very secretive about their sources. They would arrive at a market or town at sundown and place the salt blocks on mats on the ground. Then they would retire to their camp.

Anyone wanting to buy the salt would leave an amount of gold on the mat and when the traders returned the next day, if they considered the price fair, they would take the gold and leave. Otherwise the gold was left there and they retired again to await a better offer. This system obviously involved trust on both sides, but merchants that had been ripped off wouldn't return again and salt trade was so vital that no one wanted to ruin their reputation.



Tuareg traders, like this one in Timbuktu, Mali, once brought salt by camel caravan over the Sahara desert

This day in history 25 May

240 BCE	1521	1659	1895
Halley's Comet spotted The first recorded sighting of Halley's Comet appears in the Chinese chronicle <i>Records Of The Grand Historian</i> . It describes a long-tailed star that moved across the heavens from east to north.	Diet of Worms ends The assembly (Diet) of the Holy Roman Empire at the city of Worms (in Germany) concludes with protestant reformer Martin Luther being declared a heretic and an outlaw. Martin Luther flees to Wartburg castle.	Richard Cromwell resigns Oliver Cromwell's son Richard, resigns as Lord Protector of England after eight months, since he doesn't have the support of the army. The country briefly reverts to a Commonwealth, before restoring the monarchy in 1660.	Oscar Wilde convicted After rashly (and unsuccessfully) suing the Marquess of Queensbury for libel, for calling him a "posing sodomite" [sic], Wilde leaves himself open to prosecution for homosexuality. He is sentenced to two years hard labour.
			

When did we stop saying "four and twenty" instead of twenty-four?

Jacqueline Harris

In written and spoken English, it seems that 'twenty-four' has been much more popular than 'four and twenty' since at least 1800, and the same goes for the two versions of most other numbers. The 'four and twenty' form originally comes from the German ('vier und zwanzig') and survived into the late 19th century in legal and academic texts, but also, ironically, in novels where the speaker was rural or uneducated. It hasn't completely died out, though. In parts of Norfolk and Shropshire you will still hear people tell the time as 'five and twenty past.'

Gilbert and Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance* (1879) used both "twenty eight" and "nine and twenty" in the same song



How were wine bottles opened before the corkscrew was invented?

Carol Linden

Wine wasn't stored in narrow-necked glass bottles until the 18th century, when glass blowers first started mass-producing them. Before that, wine was stored in wooden barrels or large clay jars and only decanted into jugs just before serving. Early wine bottles didn't have the cork jammed all the way in and could be opened by hand. The first corkscrews were based on a tool to clean musket barrels, called a *gun worm*.

"Wine was stored in wooden barrels"

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SAMUEL HENSHALL

Nationality: British
Born-died: c.1764-1807

Brief Bio

Samuel Henshall was a rector and Oxford don but his academic career was undistinguished.

Several of his publications were criticised as boastful and full of blunders. He was awarded the first patent for a corkscrew in 1795, but similar designs were already in use and he was therefore labelled as being a 'piratical screwmaker.'

Samuel Henshall's corkscrew innovation was the collar at the base of the screw to allow the seal to be broken before pulling the cork



1925

Evolution challenged

High school teacher John Scopes is indicted in Tennessee for teaching evolution. The case was orchestrated by the American Civil Liberties Union to test the Butler Act, which had banned evolution from the US curriculum.

1953

Nuclear artillery test

The US conducts its only test of a nuclear artillery shell. It was fired by the M65 'Atomic Annie' cannon. Nuclear artillery has now been almost entirely replaced by tactical missiles.



1961

Apollo challenge

US President Kennedy proposes to Congress that America "should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth."



1977

Star Wars opens

Episode IV of Star Wars opens in 43 US preview theatres and takes \$1.5 million in its first weekend. It goes on to be the 10th highest ever box office success in the US.

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Future Publishing Ltd
Richmond House, 33 Richmond Hill
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☎ +44 (0) 1202 586200
Web: www.futureplc.com
www.greatdigitalmags.com
www.historyanswers.co.uk

Editorial

Editor in Chief **James Hoare**
james.hoare@futurenet.com
☎ 01202 586284

Senior Designer **Abbi Castle**

Features Editor **Peter Price**

Senior Art Editor **Duncan Crook**

Picture Editor **Tim Hunt**

Photographer **James Sheppard**

Contributors

Sarah Bankes, Ben Biggs, Alyson Brown, Ella Carter, Jo Cole, Martyn Conterio, Catherine Curzon, Dominic Green, Alex Hoskins, Tanita Matthews, Elizabeth Norton, Jack Parsons, Scott Reeves, Elly Rewcastle, Jo Stass, Andrew Sanders, Jules Stewart, Jodie Tyley, Luis Villazon, William Welsh, Frances White, Samantha Wilcoxson, David Williamson, Tim Williamson

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Advertising

Digital or printed media packs are available on request.

Ad Manager **Toni Cole**

☎ 01225 687368

toni.cole@futurenet.com

Sales Executive **Jim Henderson**

☎ 01225 687125

jim.henderson@futurenet.com

International

All About History is available for licensing. Contact the International department to discuss partnership opportunities.

Head of International Licensing **Matt Ellis**

matt.ellis@futurenet.com

Subscriptions

For all subscription enquiries:

allabouthistory@servicehelpline.co.uk

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Head of subscriptions **Sharon Todd**

Circulation

Circulation Director **Darren Pearce**

☎ 01202 586200

Production

Head of Production US & UK **Mark Constance**

Production Project Manager **Clare Scott**

Advertising Production Manager **Joanne Crossby**

Digital Editions Controller **Jason Hudson**

Production Manager **Nola Cokely**

Management

Finance & Operations Director **Marco Peroni**

Creative Director **Aaron Asadi**

Art & Design Director **Ross Andrews**

Printing & Distribution

Wyndeham Peterborough, Storey's Bar Road, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE1 5YS

Distributed in the UK, Eire & the Rest of the World by

Marketforce, 5 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5HU
☎ 0203 787 9060 www.marketforce.co.uk

Distributed in Australia by Gordon & Gotch Australia Pty Ltd,

26 Rodborough Road, Frenchs Forest, New South Wales 2086
☎ +61 2 9972 8800 www.gordongotch.com.au

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ISSN 2052-5870



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HISTORY HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen



THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL

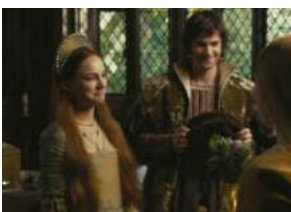
Director: Justin Chadwick **Starring:** Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Eric Bana, Eddie Redmayne, Benedict Cumberbatch **Country:** England **Released:** 2008

A loosely based adaptation of one of the most dramatic eras of Tudor history



VERDICT Although entertaining, too much is inaccurate to be considered educational

01 In the film, Anne is instantly presented to the audience as being the eldest of her three siblings, although historians largely agree that Mary was the eldest, having been born in 1500, followed by Anne in 1501, and then their brother George in 1503.



02 According to *The Other Boleyn Girl*, after Anne's first unsuccessful encounter with the king she is 'exiled' to France to serve the queen, returning to England after a "couple of months," however, evidence shows that Anne was sent to France aged 12 for nine years.



03 Played by Scarlett Johansson, Mary is an innocent and inexperienced virgin prior to her marriage to William Carey, but the King of France once referred to Mary as "a great whore more infamous than the rest," alluding to her reputation at his court.



04 Mary's affair with King Henry VIII is a central focus point in both history and Chadwick's adaptation, however, Mary did not bear a son first but a daughter by the king, and it was widely observed that Henry did not acknowledge this child as his own.



05 In the film, only Anne and George were arrested, charged, convicted and executed for high treason adultery and incest, but Mark Smeaton, Sir Henry Norris, Sir William Brereton and Sir Francis Weston were arrested in connection with Anne's alleged crimes.



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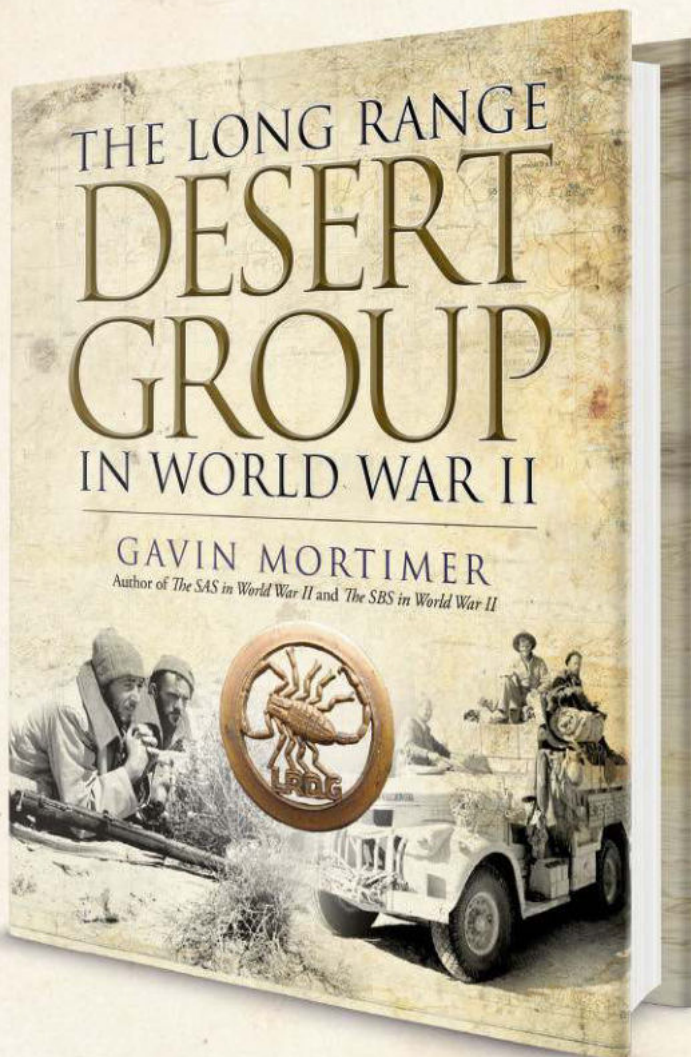
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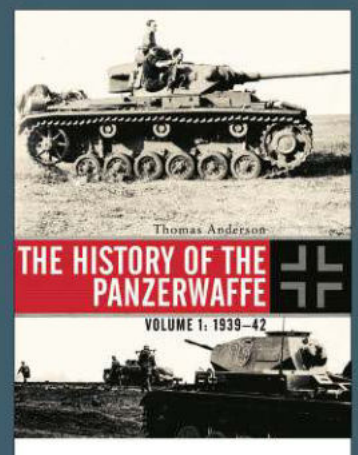
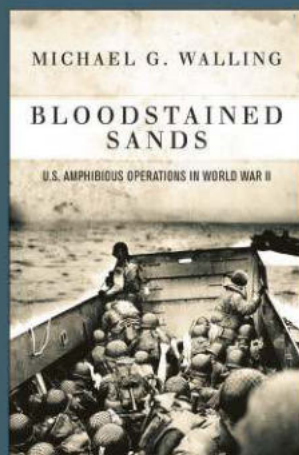
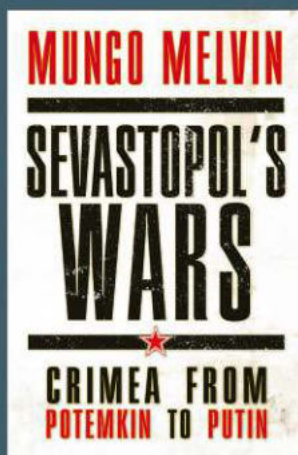


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